

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary


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Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 3, 1994

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-  
Office of Wildlife, and Assistant Secretary-Office of  
Fisheries

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary 

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - April 7, 1994

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Hawkins by Wednesday, March 16, 1994 any agenda items your office may have for the Thursday, April 7th Commission Meeting to be held in **Ruston, Louisiana at the Ruston Civic Center**, 401 North Trenton. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on April 7th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

JLH/sch

cc: Commissioners  
Don Puckett  
Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine  
Hugh Bateman  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

**BOARD MEETING**

**APRIL 7, 1994**

**JOHN F. "JEFF" SCHNEIDER  
CHAIRMAN**

**RUSTON, LOUISIANA**

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting  
and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings.

Tapes of the meetings are kept at the  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

2000 Quail Drive

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

For more information call (504) 765-2806

**AGENDA**  
**LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
**RUSTON, LOUISIANA**  
**APRIL 7, 1994**

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF  
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, April 7, 1994

Chairman Jeff Schneider presiding.

Bert Jones  
Peter Vujnovich  
Jerald Hanchey  
Perry Gisclair  
Joseph B. Cormier  
Tee John Mialjevich

Secretary Joe L. Herring was also present.

Chairman Schneider called for a motion for approval of the **March 3, 1994, Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Gisclair. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jones began the **Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast** item stating the Minerals Committee of the Commission met in Baton Rouge on April 5, 1994. The bid package was discussed and found more information was needed. Another meeting is scheduled and will be held prior to the May Commission Meeting. The Committee asked to defer any action on the shell dredging lease bid package.

The **February Aircraft Report** was presented by Mr. Lee Caubarreaux. This report showed four pilots flew a total of 65.8 hours for the month, along with the breakdown for the different planes, the estimated cost, the actual cost and the Commission's method. Chairman Schneider asked what were the repairs on the Amphibian? Commissioner Jones asked about a flight with the Aero-Commander and Lt. Governor Melinda Schwegmann, why was the flight logged on the report and would this time be charged against our credit with that plane? Commissioner Mialjevich asked about the four flights on the Float-DC plane and why was the plane in federal waters? Then he stated what was misleading was the term gill nets.

**Public Comments on 1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game** was the next item for discussion. Mr. Tommy Prickett stated there was a public hearing held with 7 or 8 speakers talking on different topics. A total of 16 letters have been received on 9 different issues and between 100 to 150 letters were received on extending the archery season. The comments received would be taken into consideration and a possible recommendation may be presented to the Commission. Commissioner Jones commented the public hearing held was the first he had attended where there was not a major free for

all. He felt, with the publicity on the proposed seasons, there were no conflicts presented. Chairman Schneider then asked for public comments.

Mr. Durr from Simsboro asked why the squirrel season could not be extended through the month of February with two border states having extended seasons. Chairman Schneider stated the Commission would look into this request.

A Turkey Hunting Season Update was presented by Mr. Hugh Bateman. He began stating the season was in progress in certain areas and would open by the weekend for the other areas. A restoration program on turkeys was continuing with restocking of birds in some areas where the population did not establish itself. One area that was being restocked was southwest Louisiana. From January through early March, 180 birds were trapped and 80 birds were moved to six different sites in District 5. An additional 30 hens were needed for these sites and Mr. Bateman hoped they would be trapped and moved into the areas during the winter of 1995. One release on International Paper Company land was accomplished with 12 birds being moved. The Tensas National Wildlife Refuge moved birds from their property over to the D'Arbonne National Wildlife Refuge. An additional 88 birds were caught and marked from various hunting clubs to determine their biology and life history. Mr. Bateman hoped to have the restoration project completed in the next two to four years.

Mr. Bateman also reported harvest information from the Wildlife Management Areas. There were 235 gobblers taken from 10 WMA's with approximately 3,000 hunting efforts. The majority of the birds came from the Three Rivers - Red River WMA in Concordia Parish. Another area that reported good kills was Fort Polk with 16 birds taken. An overall successful season was expected, reported Mr. Bateman. Chairman Schneider asked if there was any information on the percentage of jakes taken in the harvest. He then asked for that information at the end of the season. Commissioner Jones asked, what was the projection on the areas closed due to high water in the rivers? Mr. Bateman advised that the areas were still closed and the situation would be looked into for a possible opening the week before the season ended. He then informed the Commission of a poaching case in Winn Parish handled by the Enforcement Division. Commissioner Jones asked if the case would have to go before the District Attorney in Winnfield. Then he asked the disposition of the case in which an Assistant District Attorney was arrested for illegal duck hunting? Chairman Schneider asked if turkey hunting was getting more popular.

The National Fishing Week Resolution was handled by Mr. Bob Dennie. He said National Fishing Week would be expanded by holding three seminars in Monroe, Alexandria and Lafayette with the cooperation of both inland and marine fisheries biologists. Another Information and Education program that was expanding was

Marsh Maneuvers, which consists of four camping sessions attended by 16 senior 4-H members. Hands-on activities with this program include fish identification, shrimp trawling and water quality testing. The 1994 Marsh Maneuvers sessions would be held at the Grand Terre Lab. At the end of five years, the program would be reevaluated to determine if there was a need for the program. With the success of Marsh Maneuvers, a new program was being developed called Wild Wood Wondering to be held at the Tensas National Wildlife Refuge beginning in 1994. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if there was a way to integrate these programs into the school system for use by science teachers. Mr. Dennie advised the hunter education program and aquatic education program were being funded entirely with federal monies but other programs such as Project WILD did not have such funds. Commissioner Cormier stated Mr. Bennie Fontenot assisted the Lafayette Parish school system in developing an aquarium and then he stated he would check with the teacher to find out where the source of funding came from. Chairman Schneider asked Mr. Dennie to read the resolution. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if people would have to buy the Wild Louisiana Stamp if they went on certain lands during the two free fishing days. Commissioner Cormier made a motion to accept the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Mialjevich. The motion passed with no opposition. Secretary Herring stated the Information and Education Division of the Department was one of the most important divisions because they sell what the Department was doing. If the public was aware of what the Department was doing, then there would not be any financial problems.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

#### RESOLUTION

##### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

- WHEREAS,** sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and
- WHEREAS,** sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and
- WHEREAS,** Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no

more than two free recreational fishing days each year,  
and

**WHEREAS,** Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 6-12, 1994 as

**FISHING WEEK**

in the State of Louisiana, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that June 11 & 12, 1994 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

**DATE:** April 7, 1994

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John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman

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Joseph B. Cormier  
Vice Chairman

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Jerald Hanchey

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Bert Jones

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Peter Vujnovich

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Tee John Mialjevich

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Perry Gisclair

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Joe L. Herring, Secretary

The Report on Caney Lake began with Mrs. Janice Little reminding the Commission she went before them in January 1994 asking to change the lake from a quality lake to a trophy lake. Since January, Caney Lake has broken the state record with a 15.97 pound bass and added two more in the top ten. Florida largemouth bass were first stocked in Caney Lake in 1986 with a total of 1.75 million bass being stocked. The population of Caney Lake consists of over 60 percent native bass, 20 percent hybrid bass and 11 percent Florida bass. In March 1990, threadfin shad were stocked because the lake was lacking forage food. In April 1991, the lake was designated a quality lake with a 14 to 17 inch slot limit and an eight fish creel. Then Mrs. Little explained the growth of the bass from 1991 until 1994. Hopefully by June 1994, Caney Lake would be designated a trophy lake which would have a 15 to 19 inch slot. A creel survey on the lake was conducted in 1993, and of about 15,000 anglers, over 12,000 were bass fishermen. Thirteen



and fourteen pound bass in Caney Lake were being released back into the lake by a lot of the anglers.

Hydrilla is a problem that is occurring on Caney Lake with it first being discovered in 1989. The use of the best chemical available, Sonar, worked for only about 18 months. By 1992, hydrilla was found in more locations than before. In 1993, 1,500 acres of the lake was covered with vegetation. Several options were looked into in order to prevent the domination of the vegetation. It was determined that biological control with Triploid Grass Carp was the only option available. The stocking of Triploid Grass Carp occurred in January and February 1994 with 12 inch or larger fish. The goal of the Triploid Grass Carp was to maintain a 15 to 30 percent vegetation control. The fish population, water quality and aquatic vegetation would continue to be monitored in Caney Lake, reported Mrs. Little.

Commissioner Jones asked, if the Triploid Grass Carp had to be removed, how would that be done, how large do the fish get and would Caney produce a state record carp? Chairman Schneider thanked the Inland Fisheries Division for doing a good job in Caney Lake and also thanked the public for cooperating. Commissioner Jones stated the mentality of the fishermen on Caney Lake was different from any place in Louisiana. One problem that may occur was the growing pressure by the fishermen stated Commissioner Jones and then he encouraged the Commission to increase the slot limit on the bass.

Commissioner Jones stated he was asked to put **Consideration of Lake D'Arbonne Resolution** on the agenda. The Lake D'Arbonne Watershed District Commission asked the Department to consider the resolution as soon as possible. Lake D'Arbonne was receiving more pressure from hoop net users because of the mercury levels in the Ouachita River and the removal of nets from Lake Claiborne. Then Commissioner Jones read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Lake Commission's resolution which asked that hoop nets be removed from Lake D'Arbonne. He then announced that Mrs. Janice Little and Captain Brad Smith wanted to make a presentation on this item.

Mrs. Janice Little stated Lake D'Arbonne was located in Union and Lincoln Parishes. Netting conflicts have been occurring for over 20 years on Lake D'Arbonne. The Department first proposed the removal of gill and trammel nets in the 1970's and on June 20, 1984 the removal of trammel, gill, flagg nets, and fish seines became effective. The Lake Commission felt the use of hoop nets has depleted the crappie and bream population. Fish population samples taken in 1991 and 1993 do not support the decline in the fish numbers. The Department does not have any biological reasons to discontinue the legal use of hoop nets in Lake D'Arbonne.

Captain Brad Smith from the Region 2 area stated he polled the enforcement agents that patrol Lake D'Arbonne and they have seen a

number of successful crappie fishermen. The agents felt they could not see a significant decline of crappie on the lake. Between January 1993 and March 16, 1994, there were 373 cases made by enforcement agents. Captain Smith assured everyone the agents were checking every user group by the use of night scopes, binoculars and spotting scopes. In searching the files from the Communication Section, Captain Smith found only one complaint was made on illegal fishing in Lake D'Arbonne. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the violation where a slat trap fishermen took undersized catfish was for a recreational or commercial fisherman; if the five cases for fishing commercial gear with recreational license was fishermen using more nets than allowed; and, what was meant by "taking gamefish by illegal methods", and were these fishermen commercial or recreational? Commissioner Jones asked Captain Smith if he knew how many commercial fishermen were making a living from Lake D'Arbonne? Then Commissioner Jones stated to Commissioner Mialjevich that his perception of the problem was not a commercial take but a recreational take with hoop nets. He then asked what was the difference in license price on commercial hoop net and recreational hoop net, do hoop nets have to be tagged and how does one determine a fishermen may have more than five hoop nets? Captain Smith stated he could not determine any one user group was the culprit in Lake D'Arbonne. Commissioner Jones stated he doubted the commercial fisherman would jeopardize his livelihood by abusing the system. Chairman Schneider asked if this was a social problem and were there any confrontations on the lake. Commissioner Jones assured Chairman Schneider there was a polarized feel on both sides of the issue.

Mr. William Lowe, as Mayor pro tem. of the City of Ruston, welcomed everyone to the city and then asked to consider holding future meetings in Ruston. Then as President of the Lake D'Arbonne Commission, he introduced three members of that Commission and requested the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission vote to sustain their resolution. Commissioner Mialjevich asked for background information and if the Department was ever involved with the resolution. Then he asked if the members present voted affirmatively on the resolution. Commissioner Mialjevich noted he was not aware of any one person that could make a living from any particular place. Mr. Lowe commented he asked the same question during the public hearing, how many people make their living fishing on Lake D'Arbonne, and only one person stood up. Chairman Schneider asked, how was the evidence presented that gamefish were being caught regularly? Commissioner Mialjevich asked if there were any tickets issued to verify this? Commissioner Jones asked Captain Smith if the Enforcement Division had night scopes? Commissioner Gisclair asked Mr. Lowe if there was any other discussion other than banning hoop nets that occurred at the public hearing? Commissioner Jones stated that there was not much commercial take in the lake and that it was not a commercial take issue. He then stated he has a feeling from both sides on the issue and the taking of fish with hoop nets was for personal

consumption and not for commercial sale. Commissioner Mialjevich asked what was the biology aspect, were the fish being depleted? Commissioner Jones stated, according to the biologists, there was ample fish in the lake. He also stated he has received a lot of information from both sides. Chairman Schneider asked for public comments.

Mr. Lamar Calvin stated he has fished Lake D'Arbonne for many years and over the last few years, the crappie population has gone down. He believed the nets were hurting the fish population.

Mr. Paul Carter, representing his son who was the only full-time commercial fisherman on Lake D'Arbonne, was introduced to hoop nets 37 years ago. An honest commercial fisherman would take less gamefish than an honest sportfisherman, commented Mr. Carter. He sees two problems that are occurring and those are dishonesty and pollution. Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Carter, where does he and his son live, was his son the only real commercial fisherman on Lake D'Arbonne, did his son fish elsewhere and if so where? Then he asked if his son was fishing with primarily slat traps? Chairman Schneider asked if he could continue to use slat traps and there would be no problem, then asked was catfish the issue or crappie the issue? Commissioner Jones asked if a slat trap was functional year round; and when the use of slat traps was not functional, was there a marketable take on the lake? Commissioner Gisclair stated commercial fishermen should not be in the discussion and that net fishermen are sport fishermen and not a separate group.

Mr. Eugene Jonagan from Union Parish, stated he was not a commercial fisherman and only fished white perch as a recreational fisherman. He felt the population of white perch in Lake D'Arbonne was not depleted. He also felt the hoop nets were not a problem and a person should not be denied the opportunity to use these nets if they wished. Chairman Schneider asked if Mr. Jonagan used a hoop net when he fished and if he used a rod and reel? Commissioner Jones asked Mrs. Little what trash fish were removed from the lake and what was there a preponderance of gar and suckers in the lake? Commissioner Mialjevich asked what would happen if the trash fish would go unchecked, would the trash fish take over the population from the gamefish?

Mr. Raymond Abercrombie stated, in 1975 he could catch more fish with three hoop nets than could be caught now with 30 nets. He also stated there were hundreds of nets in Little D'Arbonne and if a perch was caught over and over again, the fins become damaged and that fish becomes more vulnerable to predation. He then asked if we were going to wait until the perch limit was five before not allowing the nets. Chairman Schneider asked Mr. Abercrombie if crappie and bream were easy to catch in a hoop net and did he have a commercial license? Commissioner Mialjevich asked if catfish were caught at the same time the perch were being caught?

Mr. Jack O'Brien, President of the North Louisiana Net Club, has 100 members and believes they have the right to fish the lake with nets as well as those that fish the other ways. He felt he was there defending his club for charges that were unfounded and untrue. The enforcement agents should be treated with respect stated Mr. O'Brien. If a member of his organization was caught violating any laws, he would be expelled and reported to enforcement agents. He hoped the Commission would abide by the biologists decision. Mr. O'Brien then asked who had sole authority to enforce the laws on Lake D'Arbonne. He stated he has seen where there was plenty of white perch in the lake. Commissioner Mialjevich asked for the Finfish Committee of the Commission to take the issue under advisement, possibly put areas off limit while spawning activities are occurring and put tags on the nets. He also asked the general audience to let the Commission work this situation out and felt it would not be fair to any side to make a decision at that time.

Mr. James McGee, President of Lake D'Arbonne Preservation Association, presented evidence and statements to the Commission on the lack of crappie in the lake.

Mr. David Duty, a commercial fisherman on the lake, stated he did not keep any gamefish while fishing hoop nets. He felt the number of hoop nets has increased since the 1984 ban on webbing but the use of hoop nets was a compromise. If there was a ban on hoop nets and with the current population of catfish, there would eventually be an overpopulation of catfish in the lake. With the population growing, everyone was going to have to work harder to get along and interact in the different sports.

Mr. Ralph Bernard, a pole fisherman on the lake, stated there was one thing not mentioned; the lake has a deep channel where the white perch stay. He stated that not raising nets until there was dead fish in them should be taken into consideration. Mr. Bernard felt the biology did not mean anything because he can not catch fish in the lake.

Ms. Ethel Lancaster, a 25 year resident of Corney Creek, stated she fishes year round and has always been able to catch fish until the last four or five years. She felt she was lucky if she caught three fish.

Mr. Luther Cobb stated the fishing in Lake D'Arbonne has gotten progressively worse over the last three or four years. He commented the agents could not constantly stay on the lake and enforce the laws on white perch. A solution to the problem was to take the nets out of the lake.

Mr. Curt Sheryl stated no one has mentioned the pollution coming from Ruston and going into Lake D'Arbonne and felt something needed to be done about it.

Mr. William Smith, an originator of the Lake D'Arbonne Commission, stated the lake was not intended to have any commercial fishing activities, just recreational. He then commented he would fish more if he could catch more fish, and fishermen could not fish because of the nets in the lake.

Ms. Nellie McGee commented she attended the public hearing and counted ten or twelve men who spoke that had nets in Little D'Arbonne and wondered how they had ever fished. She felt there was no fish in their portion of the lake and there was need to make regulations where everyone has a right.

Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to put this issue with the Finfish Committee of the Commission and have them work on the problem. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion and stated he appreciated the input from the public and Department. The motion passed with no opposition. Commissioner Mialjevich commended to Commissioner Jones the actions of the crowd in Ruston.

The Declaration of Emergency on Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake was presented by Mr. Corky Perret. Sabine Lake is a border lake between Texas and Louisiana and the city of Port Arthur has passed an ordinance restricting crabbing in Sabine Lake on the Texas side. Representative Roach had a legislative resolution passed providing the Commission the powers to regulate crab take and trapping for the Louisiana side. The Department has met with all sides and the Louisiana Crab Task Force has looked at the issue and support it. The Declaration of Emergency and Resolution would remove crab traps for the first two weeks of the brown shrimp season in Sabine Lake. Then Mr. Perret read the Declaration of Emergency. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the Commission had the power to make the fishermen unload their harvest in Louisiana before shipping to another state and, stated with the laws passed over the past three or four years, the Commission still would not have the power to do something at the meeting. Commissioner Mialjevich then made a motion to accept the Declaration of Emergency and this was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. Hearing no public comments, Mr. Perret then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Gisclair asked if the traps were not picked up, what would the agents be allowed to do? Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

#### RESOLUTION

Special Rule for the taking of Crabs on Sabine Lake  
adopted by the  
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

April 7, 1994

**WHEREAS,** R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to adopt emergency rules, and

**WHEREAS,** R.S. 56:6(25)(a) allows the Commission to promulgate rules and regulations, and

**WHEREAS,** Act 285 of the 1993 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature directs the Commission to establish rules relative to the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the waters of Sabine Lake, and

**WHEREAS,** the Commission finds that due to regulations for the use of crab traps in the Texas portion of Sabine Lake, the crab traps within the lake are concentrated within Louisiana's portion of the lake and place an undue hardship on the shrimpers of that area,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby establish the following emergency rule: The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the State waters of Sabine Lake for a period of fourteen days beginning at sunset on the day prior to opening day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season. All crab traps must be removed from the waters of Sabine Lake by sunset of the day prior to the opening of the season and may not be returned to those same waters until 6:00 a.m. of the fifteenth day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** a Declaration of Emergency establishing this rule is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

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John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman, Louisiana Wildlife &  
Fisheries Commission

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Joe L. Herring  
Secretary, Louisiana Department  
of Wildlife & Fisheries

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act and R.S. 56:6(25)(a) and Act 285 of the 1993 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby

finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the State waters of Sabine Lake for a period of fourteen days beginning at sunset on the day prior to opening day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season. All crab traps must be removed from the waters of Sabine Lake by sunset of the day prior to the opening of the season and may not be returned to those same waters until 6:00 a.m. of the fifteenth day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that due to the fact that crabbing with crab traps is regulated within the Texas portion of the waters of Sabine Lake, the crab traps within the lake are concentrated within Louisiana's portion of the lake and place an undue hardship on the shrimpers of that area.

John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman

Mr. Corky Perret advised he received a FAX from the Cameron Parish Police Jury of an ordinance asking for an early white shrimp season. The authority to open the season has been delegated to Secretary Herring by the Commission if the data indicates such.

Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update for the month of February was provided by Ms. Wynnette Kees. Ms. Kees informed the Commission that Ms. Nancy Hunter would spend 90 percent of her time for the next month on Civil Restitution resolving some of the problems she spoke about at the last meeting. Some of the areas that would be handled would be to centralize procedures with the Fiscal staff, to use whatever authority and resources needed to resolve the remaining procedural and legal problems, to hasten the pace of problem solving and track the progress. Different areas of Civil Restitution have been discussed at length for the past three weeks, remarked Ms. Kees, and then she explained those discussions. In comparing the dollars collected with the dollars assessed, there were between 75 and 85 percent of the cases being paid. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the confiscated items applied to Civil Restitutions and why does the Department have to rent buildings to store these items. Commissioner Cormier asked Mr. Puckett how long was a case held once a person has been adjudicated and convicted? Commissioner Jones asked what would be done to expedite compliance with regards to the larger cases paying their Civil Restitutions? Chairman Schneider asked when would any suits be filed and would the Department loose out because of the time frame to file? Commissioner Jones complimented Ms. Kees on how far the Department has gone with Civil Restitutions and emphasized this could be a great deterrent. The end goal was for Civil Restitution to be a non-existent item stated Commissioner Jones and asked Ms. Kees to press forward.

Chairman Schneider asked Mr. Fred Prejean to provide the Commission an update on the Texaco settlement. The state has received and deposited money received from Texaco and the Department's share has been credited to the Conservation Fund. Notices Mr. Prejean has received indicated the Department's share was to be between \$2.5 million and \$2.951 million. Another problem that was to be considered was the appropriate and proper classification of the money which would tell the Department how the money could be spent. The two choices for the Department would be non-recurring money, which would be used only for Capitol Outlay projects, or recurring money, which would be used for the normal operation of the Department. Mr. Prejean then explained to the Commission how this was a very stressful situation with the monies being dedicated. He stated a meeting was held with Division of Administration personnel and the suggestion of suspending the dedicated funds and applying this to the general operating budget was made. Commissioner Gisclair asked if the money from Texaco could be classified as anything other than non-recurring? Commissioner Mialjevich commented it might be better to ask forgiveness than to ask permission. Commissioner Jones asked if it would help if the Commission asked that the money be spent on a radio for Enforcement. Then he made a motion asking for the funds for the much needed radio system. Commissioner Cormier seconded the motion. Commissioner Hanchey asked if this was legal? Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Prejean if there was a timing problem. Commissioner Gisclair asked for a list of projects. Commissioner Mialjevich asked that this item be placed on the next agenda, obtain a list of unfunded projects and the Commission could pick the top five projects. Commissioner Jones agreed with Commissioner Mialjevich. Mr. Prejean informed that a decision would be made by the Governor's Attorney or the Commissioner of Administration and that the Commission should advise them of their interest. Secretary Herring stated he met with Budget people and they were willing to help us get some other funds appropriate for the Department. Commissioner Cormier asked if there was any possibility the enforcement agents could receive any federal matching funds associated with President Clinton's Crime Bill and then requested they check into that possibility.

The Monthly Law Enforcement Report for March was given by Col. Winton Vidrine. The following numbers of citations were issued during the month of March.

Region I - Minden - 73 citations.

Region II - Monroe - 81 citations.

Region III - Alexandria - 136 citations.

Region IV - Ferriday - 87 citations.

Region V - Lake Charles - 163 citations.



Region VI - Opelousas - 212 citations.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 171 citations.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 244 citations.

Region IX - Thibodaux - 281 citations.

Oyster Strike Force - 85 citations.

Statewide Strike Force - 135 citations.

Offshore Boats (SWEP) - 29 citations.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of March was 1,257.

Col. Vidrine thanked Captain Brad Smith for hosting them while in Ruston and for putting up the display on boating safety. Then he announced Agent Chad Pitre of the Strike Force was attending the meeting and wished to show a slide presentation on some of the cases made by the Strike Force agents. In 1990, legislation created the Strike Force giving Enforcement 18 new positions and from these positions, two were assigned to each region. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the shippers of oysters had a device on their trucks to show the temperatures, and if the temperature on a truck had risen too high because an investigation may have taken too long would there be grounds for a law suit. Also he asked if the agents looked at every sack of oysters on a truck. Commissioner Mialjevich commended the agents for doing a good job.

The Secretary's Report to the Commission was given by Secretary Herring. The Wildlife Division began their reforestation project with planting 20,000 water oaks on Bayou Macon. Also, some prescribed burning was done on Union Wildlife Management Area. A Hardwood Management Seminar was held for Department personnel and was very informative and educational. There were also some record deer coming from the state that were making the Boone and Crockett and Pope and Young record books.

The Fur and Refuge Division held meetings with the Department of Agriculture and Department of Health on selling nutria meat. They also worked with the Louisiana Nature and Science Center on the Nutriafest.

The Butterfly publication from the Natural Heritage Section was available and has been well received.

The shrimp sanctuary meetings along the coast were held and were well received. The staff from Marine Fisheries Division was compiling the information and would provide a final report soon.

Research was continuing at the Lyle S. St. Amant Marine Lab with projects such as the spotted seatrout and red drum age and growth. University professors have also used the facility for research purposes. Fur & Refuge and Enforcement Divisions worked out of the lab doing their routine field work.

The Inland Fisheries Division, Aquatic Plant Section, sprayed 1,106 acres of water hyacinth and also maintained boat ramps in 26 parishes. The Inland Fisheries Section began their striped bass operations at the Toledo Bend Lab. The operation hoped to produce 6 million fry.

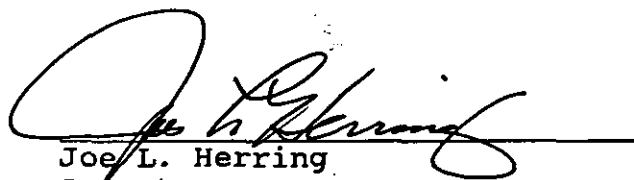
Chairman Schneider set up a meeting between the Department, Commission and legislators with the Mississippi Department, Commission and legislators in Jackson, Mississippi to discuss license fees. Other discussions pertained to reciprocal agreements along the Mississippi River and Pearl River. Also, Secretary Herring and Mr. Corky Perret attended an informal meeting of their Commission. Following the informal meeting, they attended a meeting with the House and Senate Natural Resources Committee of the legislature and the Governor of Mississippi. Chairman Schneider thanked Secretary Herring for setting up the meeting.

The August 1994 Meeting Date was scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 1994 in the Baton Rouge office, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Schneider asked for Public Comments.

Mr. Cliff Huntington stated the crossbow and archery-only season needed to have stricter regulations with the issuing of permits for disabled handicapped hunters and asked for the Commission to look into this problem.

There being no further business, the meeting was Adjourned by Chairman Schneider.

  
Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

JLH:sch

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, April 7, 1994

Draft  
Corrections made  
4/18/94-sch

Chairman Jeff Schneider presiding.

Bert Jones  
Peter Vujnovich  
Jerald Hanchey  
Perry Gisclair  
Joseph B. Cormier  
Tee John Mialjevich

Secretary Joe L. Herring was also present.

Chairman Schneider called for a motion for approval of the **March 3, 1994, Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Gisclair. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jones began the **Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast** item stating the Minerals Committee of the Commission met in Baton Rouge on April 5, 1994. The bid package was discussed and found ~~there was~~ more information ~~that~~ was needed. Another meeting is scheduled ~~to occur~~ and ~~will~~ be held prior to the May Commission Meeting. The Committee asked to defer any action on the shell dredging lease bid package.

The February **Aircraft Report** was presented by Mr. Lee Caubarreaux. This report showed four pilots flew a total of 65.8 hours for the month, along with the breakdown for the different planes, the estimated cost, the actual cost and the Commission's method. Chairman Schneider asked what were the repairs on the Amphibian? Commissioner Jones asked about a flight with the Aero-Commander and Lt. Governor Melinda Schwegmann, why was the flight logged on the report and would this time be charged against our credit with that plane? Commissioner Mialjevich asked about the four flights on the Float-DC plane and why was the plane in federal waters? Then he stated what was misleading was the ~~words~~ **term** gill nets.

Public Comments on **1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game** was the next item for discussion. Mr. Tommy Prickett stated there was a public hearing held with 7 or 8 speakers talking on different topics. A total of 16 letters have been received on 9 different issues and between 100 to 150 letters were received on extending the archery season. The comments received would be taken into consideration and a possible recommendation may be presented to the Commission. Commissioner Jones commented the public hearing held

was the first he had attended where there was not a major free for all. He felt, with the publicity on the proposed seasons, there were no conflicts presented. Chairman Schneider then asked for public comments.

Mr. Durr from Simsboro asked why the squirrel season could not be extended through the month of February with two border states having extended seasons. Chairman Schneider stated the Commission would look into this request.

A **Turkey Hunting Season Update** was presented by Mr. Hugh Bateman. He began stating the season was in progress in certain areas and would open by the weekend for the other areas. A restoration program on turkeys was continuing with restocking of birds in some areas where the population did not establish itself. One area that was being restocked was southwest Louisiana. From January through early March, 180 birds were trapped 80 birds were moved to six different sites in District 5. An additional 30 hens were needed for these sites and Mr. Bateman hoped they would be trapped and moved into the areas during the winter of 1995. One release on International Paper Company was accomplished with 12 birds being moved. The Tensas National Wildlife Refuge moved birds from their property over to the D'Arbonne National Wildlife Refuge. An additional 88 birds were caught and marked from various hunting clubs to determine their biology and life history. Mr. Bateman hoped to have the restoration project completed in the next two to four years.

Going on, Mr. Bateman <sup>A/60</sup> reported harvest information from the Wildlife Management Areas. There were 235 gobblers taken from 10 WMA's with approximately 3,000 hunting effort. The majority of the birds came from the Three Rivers - Red River WMA in Concordia Parish. Another area that reported good kills was Fort Polk with 16 birds taken. An overall successful season was expected, reported Mr. Bateman. Chairman Schneider asked if there was any information on the percentage of jakes taken in the harvest. He then asked for that information at the end of the season. Commissioner Jones asked what was the projection on the areas closed due to high water in the rivers? Mr. Bateman advised that the areas were still closed and the situation would be looked into for a possible opening the week before the season ended. He then informed the Commission of a poaching case in Winn Parish handled by the Enforcement Division. Commissioner Jones asked if the case would have to go before the District Attorney in Winnfield. Then he asked the disposition of the case in which an Assistant District Attorney was arrested for illegal duck hunting? Chairman Schneider asked if turkey hunting was getting more popular.

<sup>expanded</sup> The **National Fishing Week Resolution** was handled by Mr. Bob Dennie. He ~~started by stating~~ National Fishing Week would be ~~expounded on~~ by holding three seminars in Monroe, Alexandria and Lafayette with the cooperation of both inland and marine fisheries <sup>Shi</sup>

biologists. Another Information and Education program that was expanding was ~~the~~ Marsh Maneuvers, which consists of four camping sessions attended by 16 senior 4-H members. Hands-on activities with this program include fish identification, shrimp trawling and water quality testing. The 1994 Marsh Maneuvers sessions would be held at the Grand Terre Lab. At the end of five years, the program would be reevaluated to determine if there was a need for the program. With the success of Marsh Maneuvers, a new program was being developed called Wild Wood Wondering to be held at the Tensas National Wildlife Refuge beginning in 1994. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if there was a way to integrate these programs into the school system for use by science teachers. Mr. Dennie advised the hunter education program and aquatic education program were being funded entirely with federal monies but other programs such as Project WILD did not have such funds. Commissioner Cormier stated Mr. Bennie Fontenot assisted the Lafayette Parish school system in developing an aquarium and then he stated he would check with the teacher to find out where the source of funding came from. Chairman Schneider asked Mr. Dennie to read the resolution. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if people would have to buy the Wild Louisiana Stamp if they went on certain lands during the two free fishing days. Commissioner Cormier made a motion to accept the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Mialjevich. The motion passed with no opposition. Secretary Herring stated the Information and Education Division of the Department was one of the most important divisions because they sell what the Department was doing. If the public was aware of what the Department was doing, then there would not be any financial problems.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

#### RESOLUTION

##### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

- WHEREAS,** sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and
- WHEREAS,** sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and

**WHEREAS,** Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

**WHEREAS,** Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 6-12, 1994 as

**FISHING WEEK**

in the State of Louisiana, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that June 11 & 12, 1994 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

DATE: April 7, 1994

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph B. Cormier  
Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerald Hanchey

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bert Jones

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Vujnovich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tee John Mialjevich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Perry Gisclair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe L. Herring, Secretary

The Report on Caney Lake began with Mrs. Janice Little reminding the Commission she went before them in January 1994 asking to change the lake from a quality lake to a trophy lake. Since January, Caney Lake has broken the state record with a 15.97 pound bass and added two more in the top ten. Florida largemouth bass ~~was~~ first stocked in Caney Lake in 1986 ~~for~~ a total of 1.75 million bass being stocked. The population of Caney Lake consists of over 60 percent native bass, 20 percent hybrid bass and 11 percent Florida bass. March 1990, threadfin shad were stocked because the lake was lacking forage food. In April 1991, the lake was designated a quality lake with a 14 to 17 inch slot limit ~~with~~ an eight fish creel. Then Mrs. Little explained the growth of the bass from 1991 until 1994. Hopefully by June 1994, Caney Lake would be designated a trophy lake which would have a 15 to 19 inch

slot. A creel survey on the lake was conducted in 1993, and of about 15,000 anglers, over 12,000 were bass fishermen. Thirteen and fourteen pound bass in Caney Lake were being released back into the lake by a lot of the anglers.

Hydrilla is a problem that is occurring on Caney Lake with it first being discovered in 1989. The use of the best chemical available, Sonar, worked for only about 18 months. ~~However, by~~ 1992, hydrilla was found in more locations than before. In 1993, 1,500 acres of the lake was covered with vegetation. Several options were looked into in order to prevent the ~~taking over~~ of the vegetation. It was determined that biological control with Triploid Grass Carp was the only option available. The stocking of Triploid Grass Carp occurred in January and February 1994 with 12 inch or larger fish. The goal of the Triploid Grass Carp was to maintain a 15 to 30 percent vegetation control. The fish population, water quality and aquatic vegetation would continue to be monitored in Caney Lake, reported Mrs. Little. *domination*

Commissioner Jones asked if the Triploid Grass Carp had to be removed, how would that be done, how large do the fish get and would Caney produce a state record carp? Chairman Schneider thanked the Inland Fisheries Division for doing a good job in Caney Lake and also thanked the public for cooperating. Commissioner Jones stated the mentality of the fishermen on Caney Lake was different from any place in Louisiana. One problem that may occur was the growing pressure by the fishermen stated Commissioner Jones and then he encouraged the Commission to increase the slot limit on the bass.

Commissioner Jones stated he was asked to put **Consideration of Lake D'Arbonne Resolution** on the agenda. The Lake D'Arbonne Watershed District Commission asked the Department to consider the resolution as soon as possible. Lake D'Arbonne was receiving more pressure from hoop net users because of the mercury levels in the Ouachita River and the removal of nets from Lake Claiborne. Then Commissioner Jones read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Lake Commission's resolution which asked that hoop nets be removed from Lake D'Arbonne. He then announced that Mrs. Janice Little and Captain Brad Smith wanted to make a presentation on this item.

Mrs. Janice Little stated Lake D'Arbonne was located in Union and Lincoln Parishes. Netting conflicts have been occurring for over 20 years on Lake D'Arbonne. The Department first proposed the removal of gill and trammel nets in the 1970's and on June 20, 1984 the removal of trammel, gill, flagg nets, and fish seines became effective. The Lake Commission felt the use of hoop nets has depleted the crappie and bream population. Fish population samples taken in 1991 and 1993 does not support the decline in the fish numbers. The Department does not have any biological reasons to discontinue the legal use of hoop nets in Lake D'Arbonne. *6*

Captain Brad Smith from the Region 2 area stated he polled the enforcement agents that patrol Lake D'Arbonne and they have seen a number of successful crappie fishermen. The agents felt they could not see a significant decline of crappie on the lake. Between January 1993 and March 16, 1994, there were 373 cases made by enforcement agents. Captain Smith assured everyone the agents were checking every user group by the use of night scopes, binoculars and spotting scopes. In searching the files from the Communication Section, Captain Smith found only one complaint was made on illegal fishing in Lake D'Arbonne. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the violation where a slat trap fishermen took undersized catfish was for a recreational or commercial fisherman; if the five cases for fishing commercial gear with recreational license was fishermen using more nets than allowed; and, what was meant by "taking gamefish by illegal methods" and were these fishermen commercial or recreational? Commissioner Jones asked Captain Smith if he knew how many commercial fishermen were making a living from Lake D'Arbonne? Then Commissioner Jones stated to Commissioner Mialjevich that his perception of the problem was not a commercial take but a recreational take with hoop nets. He then asked what was the difference in license price on commercial hoop net and recreational hoop net, do hoop nets have to be tagged and how does one determine a fishermen may have more than five hoop nets? Captain Smith stated he could not determine any one user group was the culprit in Lake D'Arbonne. Commissioner Jones stated he doubted the commercial fisherman would jeopardize his livelihood by abusing the system. Chairman Schneider asked if this was a social problem and were there any confrontations on the lake. Commissioner Jones assured Chairman Schneider there was a polarized feel on both sides of the issue.

Mr. William Lowe, as Mayor pro tem. of the City of Ruston, welcomed everyone to the city and then asked to consider holding future meetings in Ruston. Then as President of the Lake D'Arbonne Commission, he introduced three members of that Commission and requested the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission vote to sustain their resolution. Commissioner Mialjevich asked for background information and if the Department was ever involved with the resolution. Then he asked if the members present voted affirmatively on the resolution. Commissioner Mialjevich noted he was not aware of any one person that could make a living from any particular place. Mr. Lowe commented he asked the same question during the public hearing, how many people make their living fishing on Lake D'Arbonne, and only one person stood up. Chairman Schneider asked how was the evidence presented that gamefish were being caught regularly? Commissioner Mialjevich asked if there were any tickets issued to verify this? Commissioner Jones asked Captain Smith if the Enforcement Division had night scopes? Commissioner Gisclair asked Mr. Lowe if there was any other discussion other than banning hoop nets that occurred at the public hearing? Commissioner Jones stated that there was not much commercial take in the lake and that it was not a commercial take



issue. He then stated he has a feeling from both sides on the issue and the taking of fish with hoop nets was for personal consumption and not for commercial sale. Commissioner Mialjevich asked what was the biology aspect, ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> the fish being depleted? Commissioner Jones stated ~~according~~ <sup>was</sup> to the biologists, there was ample fish in the lake. He also stated he has received a lot of information from both sides. Chairman Schneider asked for public comments.

Mr. Lamar Calvin stated he has fished Lake D'Arbonne for many years and over the last few years, the crappie population has gone down. He believed the nets were hurting the fish population.

Mr. Paul Carter, representing his son who was the only full-time commercial fisherman on Lake D'Arbonne, was introduced to hoop nets 37 years ago. An honest commercial fisherman would take less gamefish than an honest sportfisherman, commented Mr. Carter. He sees two problems that ~~was~~ <sup>are</sup> occurring and ~~that was~~ <sup>those are</sup> dishonesty and pollution. Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Carter, where does he and his son live, was his son the only real commercial fisherman on Lake D'Arbonne, did his son fish elsewhere and if so where? Then he asked if his son was fishing with primarily slat traps? Chairman Schneider asked if he could continue to use slat traps and there would be no problem, then asked was catfish the issue or crappie the issue? Commissioner Jones asked if a slat trap was functional year round; and when the use of slat traps was not functional, was there a marketable take on the lake? Commissioner Gisclair stated commercial fishermen should not be in the discussion and that net fishermen are sport fishermen and not a separate group.

Mr. Eugene Jonagan from Union Parish, stated he was not a commercial fisherman and only fished white perch as a recreational fisherman. He felt the population of white perch in Lake D'Arbonne was not depleted. He also felt the hoop nets ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> not a problem and a person should not be denied the opportunity to use these nets if they wished. Chairman Schneider asked if Mr. Jonagan used a hoop net when he fished and if he used a rod and reel? Commissioner Jones asked Mrs. Little what trash fish ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> removed from the lake and what was ~~the~~ <sup>there</sup> preponderance of gar and suckers in the lake? Commissioner Mialjevich asked what would happen if the trash fish would go unchecked, would the trash fish take over the population from the gamefish?

Mr. Raymond Abercrombie stated, in 1975 <sup>A</sup> he could catch more fish with three hoop nets than could be caught now with 30 nets. He also stated there were hundreds of nets in Little D'Arbonne and if ~~the~~ <sup>there</sup> perch was caught over and over again, the fins become damaged and that fish becomes more vulnerable to predation. He then asked if we were going to wait until the perch limit was five before not allowing the nets. Chairman Schneider asked Mr. Abercrombie if crappie and bream were easy to catch in a hoop net

*were* and did he have a commercial license? Commissioner Mialjevich asked if catfish ~~was~~ caught at the same time the perch were being caught?

Mr. Jack O'Brien, President of the North Louisiana Net Club, has 100 members and believes they have the right to fish the lake with nets as well as those that fish the other ways. He felt he was there defending his club for charges that were unfounded and untrue. The enforcement agents should be treated with respect stated Mr. O'Brien. If a member of his organization was caught violating any laws, he would be expelled and reported to enforcement agents. He hoped the Commission would abide by the biologists decision. Mr. O'Brien then asked who had sole authority to enforce the laws on Lake D'Arbonne. He stated he has seen where there was plenty of white perch in the lake. Commissioner Mialjevich asked for the Finfish Committee of the Commission to take the issue under advisement, possibly put areas off limit while spawning activities are occurring and put tags on the nets. He also asked the general audience to let the Commission work this situation out and felt it would not be fair to any side to make a decision at that time.

Mr. James McGee, President of Lake D'Arbonne Preservation Association, presented evidence and statements to the Commission on the lack of crappie in the lake.

*has* Mr. David Duty, a commercial fisherman on the lake, stated he did not keep any gamefish while fishing hoop nets. He felt the number of hoop nets ~~have~~ increased since the 1984 ban on webbing but the use of hoop nets was a compromise. If there was a ban on hoop nets and with the current population of catfish, there would eventually be an overpopulation of catfish in the lake. With the population growing, everyone was going to have to work harder to get along and interact in the different sports.

Mr. Ralph Bernard, a pole fisherman on the lake, stated there was one thing not mentioned; the lake has a deep channel where the white perch stay. He stated ~~the not raising of nets until there~~ was dead fish in them should be taken into consideration. Mr. Bernard felt the biology did not mean anything because he can not catch fish in the lake. *+ Max*

Ms. Ethel Lancaster, a 25 year resident of Corney Creek, stated she fishes year round and has always been able to catch fish until the last four or five years. She felt she was lucky if she caught three fish.

*worse* Mr. Luther Cobb stated the fishing in Lake D'Arbonne has gotten progressively ~~worst~~ over the last three or four years. He commented the agents could not constantly stay on the lake and enforce the laws on white perch. A solution to the problem was to take the nets out of the lake.

Mr. Curt Sheryl stated no one has mentioned the pollution coming from Ruston and going into Lake D'Arbonne and felt something needed to be done about it.

Mr. William Smith, an originator of the Lake D'Arbonne Commission, stated the lake was not to have any commercial fishing activities, just recreational. He then commented he would fish more if he could catch more fish, and fishermen could not fish because of the nets in the lake. *intended*

Ms. Nellie McGee commented she attended the public hearing and counted ten or twelve men who spoke that had nets in Little D'Arbonne and wondered how they had ever fished. She felt there was no fish in their portion of the lake and there was need to make regulations where everyone has a right.

Commissioner Mialjevich made a motion to put this issue with the Finfish Committee of the Commission and they work on the problem. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion and stated he appreciated the input from the public and Department. The motion passed with no opposition. Commissioner Mialjevich commended to Commissioner Jones the actions of the crowd in Ruston. *have them*

The Declaration of Emergency on **Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake** was presented by Mr. Corky Perret. Sabine Lake is a border lake between Texas and Louisiana and the city of Port Arthur has passed an ordinance restricting crabbing in Sabine Lake on the Texas side. Representative Roach had a resolution passed providing the Commission the powers to regulate crab take and trapping for the Louisiana side. The Department has met with all sides and the Louisiana Crab Task Force has looked at the issue and support it. The Declaration of Emergency and Resolution would remove crab traps for the first two weeks of the brown shrimp season in Sabine Lake. Then Mr. Perret read the Declaration of Emergency. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the Commission had the power to make the fishermen unload their harvest in Louisiana before shipping to another state and with the laws passed over the past three or four years, the Commission still would not have the power to do something at the meeting. Commissioner Mialjevich then made a motion to accept the Declaration of Emergency and this was seconded by Commissioner Vujnovich. Hearing no public comments, Mr. Perret then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Gisclair asked if the nets were not picked up, what would the agents be allowed to do? Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously. *legislative*  
*stated*  
*traps*

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

#### RESOLUTION

Special Rule for the taking of Crabs on Sabine Lake  
adopted by the  
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission  
April 7, 1994

**WHEREAS,** R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to adopt emergency rules, and

**WHEREAS,** R.S. 56:6(25)(a) allows the Commission to promulgate rules and regulations, and

**WHEREAS,** Act 285 of the 1993 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature directs the Commission to establish rules relative to the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the waters of Sabine Lake, and

**WHEREAS,** the Commission finds that due to regulations for the use of crab traps in the Texas portion of Sabine Lake, the crab traps within the lake are concentrated within Louisiana's portion of the lake and place an undue hardship on the shrimpers of that area,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby establish the following emergency rule: The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the State waters of Sabine Lake for a period of fourteen days beginning at sunset on the day prior to opening day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season. All crab traps must be removed from the waters of Sabine Lake by sunset of the day prior to the opening of the season and may not be returned to those same waters until 6:00 a.m. of the fifteenth day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** a Declaration of Emergency establishing this rule is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

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John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman, Louisiana Wildlife &  
Fisheries Commission

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Joe L. Herring  
Secretary, Louisiana Department  
of Wildlife & Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act and R.S.

56:6(25)(a) and Act 285 of the 1993 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the State waters of Sabine Lake for a period of fourteen days beginning at sunset on the day prior to opening day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season. All crab traps must be removed from the waters of Sabine Lake by sunset of the day prior to the opening of the season and may not be returned to those same waters until 6:00 a.m. of the fifteenth day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that due to the fact that crabbing with crab traps is regulated within the Texas portion of the waters of Sabine Lake, the crab traps within the lake are concentrated within Louisiana's portion of the lake and place an undue hardship on the shrimpers of that area.

John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman

Mr. Corky Perret advised he received a FAX from the Cameron Parish Police Jury of an ordinance asking for an early white shrimp season. The authority to open the season has been delegated to Secretary Herring by the Commission if the data indicates such.

**Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update** for the month of February was provided by Ms. Wynnette Kees. Ms. Kees informed the Commission that Ms. Nancy Hunter would spend 90 percent of her time for the next month on Civil Restitution resolving some of the problems she spoke about at the last meeting. Some of the areas that would be handled would be to centralize procedures with the Fiscal staff, to use whatever authority and resources needed to resolve the remaining procedural and legal problems, to hasten the pace of problem solving and track the progress. Different areas of Civil Restitution have been discussed at length for the past three weeks, remarked Ms. Kees, and then she explained those discussions. In comparing the dollars collected with the dollars assessed, there ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> between 75 and 85 percent of the cases being paid. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the confiscated items applied to Civil Restitutions and why does the Department have to rent buildings to store these items. Commissioner Cormier asked Mr. Puckett how long was a case held once a person has been adjudicated and convicted? Commissioner Jones asked what would be done to expedite compliance with regards to the larger cases paying their Civil Restitutions? Chairman Schneider asked when would any suits be filed and would the Department loose out because of the time frame to file? Commissioner Jones complimented Ms. Kees on how far the Department has gone with Civil Restitutions and emphasized this could be a great deterrent. The end goal was for Civil Restitution

to be a non-existent item stated Commissioner Jones and asked Ms. Kees to press forward.

Chairman Schneider asked Mr. Fred Prejean to provide the Commission ~~for~~ an update on the Texaco settlement. The state has received and deposited money received from Texaco and the Department's share has been credited to the Conservation Fund. Notices Mr. Prejean has received indicated the Department's share was to be between \$2.5 million and \$2.951 million. Another problem that was to be considered was the appropriate and proper classification of the money which would tell the Department how the money could be spent. The two choices for the Department would be non-recurring money which would be used only for Capitol Outlay projects, or recurring money which would be used for the normal operation of the Department. Mr. Prejean then explained to the Commission how this was a very stressful situation with the monies being dedicated. He stated a meeting was held with Division of Administration personnel and the suggestion of suspending the dedicated funds and ~~apply~~ <sup>Applying</sup> this to the general operating budget was made. Commissioner Gisclair asked if the money from Texaco could be classified as anything other than non-recurring? Commissioner Mialjevich commented it might be better to ask forgiveness than to ask permission. Commissioner Jones asked if it would help if the Commission asked that the money be spent on a radio for Enforcement. Then he made a motion asking for the funds for the much needed radio system ~~and proceed forward~~. Commissioner Cormier seconded the motion. Commissioner Hanchey asked if this was legal? Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Prejean if there was a timing problem. Commissioner Gisclair asked for a list of projects. Commissioner Mialjevich asked that this item be placed on the next agenda, <sup>could</sup> obtain a list of unfunded projects and the Commission pick the top five projects. Commissioner Jones agreed with Commissioner Mialjevich. Mr. Prejean informed that a decision would be made by the Governor's Attorney or the Commissioner of Administration and that the Commission should advise them of their interest. Secretary Herring stated he met with Budget people and they were willing to help us get some other funds appropriate for the Department. Commissioner Cormier asked if there was any possibility the enforcement agents could receive any federal matching funds associated with President Clinton's Crime Bill and then requested they check into that possibility.

The Monthly Law Enforcement Report for March was given by Col. Winton Vidrine. The following numbers of citations were issued during the month of March.

Region I - Minden - 73 citations.

Region II - Monroe - 81 citations.

Region III - Alexandria - 136 citations.

Region IV - Ferriday - 87 citations.

Region V - Lake Charles - 163 citations.

Region VI - Opelousas - 212 citations.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 171 citations.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 244 citations.

Region IX - Thibodaux - 281 citations.

Oyster Strike Force - 85 citations.

Statewide Strike Force - 135 citations.

Offshore Boats (SWEP) - 29 citations.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of March was 1,257.

Col. Vidrine thanked Captain Brad Smith for hosting them while in Ruston and for putting up the display on boating safety. Then he announced Agent Chad Pitre of the Strike Force was attending the meeting and wished to show a slide presentation on some of the cases made by the Strike Force agents. In 1990, legislation created the Strike Force giving Enforcement 18 new positions and from these positions, two were assigned to each region. Commissioner Mialjevich asked if the shippers of oysters had a device on their trucks to show the temperatures, and if the temperature on a truck had risen too high because an investigation there may have taken too long would be grounds for a law suit. Also he asked if the agents looked at every sack of oysters on a truck. Commissioner Mialjevich commended the agents for doing a good job.

The **Secretary's Report** to the Commission was given by Secretary Herring. The Wildlife Division began their reforestation project with planting 20,000 water oaks on Bayou Macon. Also, some prescribed burning was done on Union Wildlife Management Area. A Hardwood Management Seminar was held for Department personnel and was very informative and educational. There ~~was~~ also some record deer coming from the state that were making the Boone and Crockett and Pope and Young record books. were

The Fur and Refuge Division held meetings with <sup>the</sup> Department of Agriculture and Department of Health on selling nutria meat. They also worked with <sup>the</sup> Louisiana Nature and Science Center on the Nutriafest.

The Butterfly publication from the Natural Heritage Section was available and has been well received.

The shrimp sanctuary meetings along the coast were held and were well received. The staff from Marine Fisheries Division was compiling the information and would provide a final report soon.

Research was continuing <sup>at</sup> on the Lyle S. St. Amant Marine Lab with projects such as the spotted seatrout and red drum age and growth. University professors have also used the facility for research purposes. Fur & Refuge and Enforcement Divisions worked out of the lab doing their routine field work.

The Inland Fisheries Division, Aquatic Plant Section sprayed 1,106 acres of water hyacinth and also maintained boat ramps in 26 parishes. The Inland Fisheries Section began their striped bass operations at the Toledo Bend Lab. The operation ~~was~~ hoped to produce 6 million fry.

Chairman Schneider set up a meeting between the Department, Commission and legislators with the Mississippi Department, Commission and legislators in Jackson, Mississippi to discuss license fees. Other discussions pertained to reciprocal agreements along the Mississippi River and Pearl River. Also, Secretary Herring and Mr. Corky Perret attended an informal meeting of their Commission. Following the informal meeting, they attended a meeting with the House and Senate Natural Resources Committee of the legislature and the Governor of Mississippi. Chairman Schneider thanked Secretary Herring for setting up the meeting.

The **August 1994 Meeting Date** was scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 1994 in the Baton Rouge office, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Schneider asked for **Public Comments**.

Mr. Cliff Huntington stated the crossbow and archery-only season needed to have stricter regulations with the issuing of permits for disabled handicapped hunters and asked for the Commission to look into this problem.

There being no further business, the meeting was **Adjourned** by Chairman Schneider.

---

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

JLH:sch



COMMISSION MEETING  
ROLL CALL

Thursday, April 7, 1994  
Ruston, LA

	Attended	Absent
Jeff Schneider (Chairman)	<u>✓</u>	—
Bert Jones	<u>✓</u>	—
Perry Gisclair	<u>✓</u>	—
Tee John Mialjevich	<u>✓</u>	—
Joseph Cormier	<u>✓</u>	—
Jerald Hanchey	<u>✓</u>	—
Peter Vujnovich	<u>✓</u>	—

Mr. Chairman:

There are 7 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.  
Secretary Herring is also present.

# AGENDA

## LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

RUSTON, LA

April 7, 1994

10:00 AM

- ✓1. Roll Call
- ✓2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 1994
- ✓3. Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast - Bert Jones
- ✓4. Aircraft Report - Lee Caubarreaux
- ✓5. Public Comments on 1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game - Tommy Prickett
- ✓6. Turkey Hunting Season Update - Hugh Bateman
- ✓7. National Fishing Week Resolution - Bob Dennie
- ✓8. Consideration of Lake D'Arbonne Resolution - Bert Jones
- ✓9. Report on Caney Lake - Bennie Fontenot/Janice Little
- ✓10. Declaration of Emergency - Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake - Brandt Savoie
- ✓11. Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update - Fred Prejean
- ✓12. Monthly Law Enforcement Report/March - Winton Vidrine
- ✓13. Secretary's Report to the Commission - Joe Herring
- ✓14. Set August 1994 Meeting Date
15. Public Comments

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RUSTON, LA  
April 7, 1994  
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
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14. Set August 1994 Meeting Date
15. Public Comments

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800  
March 22, 1994

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

## MEMORANDUM:

TO: Joe L. Herring, Secretary

FROM: Lee Caubarreux, Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Aviation Report - February 1994  
Total hours listed are:

PILOT	TOTAL HOURS
G. Rackle -	23.2
B. Stamey -	16.5
M. Windham -	8.3
D. Clause -	17.8
TOTAL HOURS -	65.80

-0- No Flights

PLANE	FLIGHT HOURS	ESTIMATED <sup>1</sup> COST(TOTAL)	ACTUAL <sup>2</sup> COST(TOTAL)	COMMISSION METHOD
N61092 Amphib -	12.0	1,405.56	*9,875.42	2,507.40
70365 Float-DC -	9.0	830.07	3,479.67	1,180.26
N2576K Float-MW -	17.1	2,198.55	3,928.46	
N9467Y 210 -	6.7	748.66	1,098.19	1,385.63
N223MS Partenavia -	13.2	2,073.98	1,198.55	3,596.74
N57266 Aero Commander -	7.8			
TOTALS	65.80	7,256.82	19,580.29	8,670.03

<sup>1</sup>Estimated Cost is based on an historical average per flight hour.

<sup>2</sup>Actual Cost substitutes actual maintenance for the month for the average maintenance costs used in the previous figure. This is the only figure used in the calculation of estimated costs that varies significantly from month to month.

\*Costs include repairs covered under insurance that is paid by the Office of Risk Management.

LGC:csg

cc: Debbie Unbehagen, Fiscal

February, 1994

PLANE: N223MS (PARTENAVIA)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/23/94	Rackle	BR-JACKSON, AL-SHREVEPORT-BR: transport wild turkeys	6.8	-----
02/25/94	Stamey	BR-TIPTON, GA-BR: pickup after Federal Aid meeting	6.4	A. Williams M. Starns D. Unbehagen L. Hidalgo
		TOTAL	13.2	
PLANE: N9467Y (210)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/11/94	Stamey	BR-COASTAL-BR: LOOP Pipeline	2.5	R. Allemand
02/13/94	Stamey	BR-local: training/checkride	1.0	-----
02/14/94	Stamey	BR-local CFIIMEI checkride	1.2	M. Brown, FAA
02/18/94	Stamey	BR-LOWER MISS. RIVER-BR: dredging	2.0	J.W. Smith P. Lowery
		TOTAL	6.7	
PLANE: N70365 (FLOAT-DC)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/03/94	Clause	NI-FED WATERS-NI: fish, gill net	2.0	G. Adams
02/04/94	Clause	NI-FED WATERS-NI: fish, gill net	2.0	G. Adams
02/05/94	Clause	NI-FED WATERS-NI: fish, gill net	2.5	G. Adams
02/28/94	Clause	NI-REGIONS 6, 9, 8-NI: gill net	2.5	-----
		TOTAL	9.0	
N61092 (AMPHIB)				
DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/21/94	Rackle	BR-NO: return from maintenance	.9	-----
02/22/94	Rackle	NO-BAYOU LAFOURCHE-COASTAL-NO: DNR permits	1.8	K. Kilgen
02/22/94	Rackle	NO-COASTAL-NO: pink shrimp season opening survey	2.3	J. Burdon
02/24/94	Rackle	NO-ROCKEFELLER-COASTAL-NO: waterfowl survey	7.0	T. Hess G. Perry
		TOTAL	12.0	

**PLANE: N2576K (FLOAT-MW)**

DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/02-03/94	Windham	NO-Pointe-Au-Chien-NO: wetlands management	1.5	
02/06/94	Clause	NI-REGIONS 9, 8, COASTAL-NI: enf.	3.0	
02/07/94	Clause	NI-REGIONS 9, 8, COASTAL-NI: enf.	4.7	
02/11/94	Clause	NI-NO: reposition	1.1	
02/11/94	Windham	NO-PASS-A-LOUTRE WMA-NO: sediment diversion research	1.8	O. Hugh, LSU S. Majersky
02/17/94	Windham	NO-ROCKEFELLER-NO: mineral activity	2.6	J. Tarver
02/17	Windham	NO-ROCKEFELLER-NO: mineral activity	2.4	J. Tarver
		TOTAL	17.1	

**PLANE: N25766 (AERO COMMANDER)**

DATE	PILOT	DESTINATION & PURPOSE	HOURS	PASSENGERS
02/07/94	Rackle	BR-NO-SHREVEPORT-NO-BR: Lt. Governor's office flight	4.4	M. Schweggman F. Trappey, Tourism L. Hensley, DOTD
02/23/94	Stamey	BR-TIPTON, GA-BR: transport to Federal Aid conference	3.4	A. Williams M. Starns D. Unbehagen L. Hidalgo
		TOTAL	7.8	

# Undersecretary says LDWF to receive \$2.5 million windfall

By JOE MACALUSO  
Advocate outdoors writer

**RUSTON** — The seven-man Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission learned Thursday that the state department it oversees may, at least in the short term, not face the financial problems predicted for Fiscal Year 1994-95.

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries undersecretary Fred Prejean told the LWFC that an additional \$2.5 million is forthcoming from the state's recent \$150 million settlement with Texaco. He also explained that amount is in addition to a \$2.3 million surplus the LDWF has in unspent dedicated funds from this year's budget.

"The only problem we will have is how we will be allowed to spend this money," Prejean said.

Commission member Bert Jones suggested the windfall be used to purchase a long-overdue modern radio communication system for the department's Enforcement Division.

Jones yielded to fellow commissioner Perry Gisclair, who called on Prejean to return to the LWFC's May meeting in Metairie with a list of needed major capital expenditures. Gisclair said he wanted to make sure the money was spent "in the right places ... and make sure we can spend the money on those projects." Gisclair's recommendation was passed unanimously.

The commission also passed a Declaration of Emergency that will require commercial crab fishermen to remove their traps from Sabine Lake by sunset the day before the opening day of the 1994 Zone 3 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season. The crab-trap ban will last 14 days. The LWFC will set that date at its May

meeting.

LDWF assistant secretary William Perret said promulgation of the rule was necessary, "Because the traps present a hardship to shrimpers in the area during that time."

The LWFC also approved a resolution declaring June 6-12 as Louisiana's Fishing Week. It also declared June 11-12 as "free fishing days," a move which allows fishing without a state license in state waters.

The subject of fishing licenses formed a major part of Enforcement Division chief Winton Vidrine's presentation to the LWFC. Of the 1,257 tickets written by LDWF agents in March, 650 involved recreational fishing-license violations.

The majority of the turnout at the rare commission meeting in North Louisiana spoke concerning a recent resolution passed by the Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Commission to ban hoop nets from nearby Lake D'Arbonne. At least 12 recreational anglers told the LWFC that catches of crappie (sac-a-lait) and bream have declined in recent years. They blamed both the commercial and recreational use of hoop nets on the lake. All other nets have been banned from the lake since 1983.

The commission tabled consideration of the ban until it can study the material both sides presented at Thursday's meeting.

The commission also heard an update on catches of big bass from Caney Lake and the on-going wild turkey season. LDWF biologists termed both reports "successful."

The LWFC also voted to hold its August, 1994 meeting on Aug. 4 at the LDWF Headquarters in Baton Rouge.

## Major Changes for 1994-95 Hunting Regulations

### Deer

1. Most deer season dates were simply adjusted for calendar with no major changes in structure of season as it pertains to dog and still hunting.
2. Created Area 8 in the Florida parishes to allow for deer season to extend to January 22 and allow a weekend to be added to muzzleloader season.
3. Add one weekend to muzzleloader hunting in Area 6 and extend gun season to January 22.
4. Change daily limit on deer to one legal buck and one legal antlerless per day.
5. That portion of Avoyelles parish that surrounds Pomme de Terre will have the same season as the Area at large except still hunt only.
6. Add either sex hunting days to several parishes including Vermillion, Evangeline, Catahoula and LaSalle to provide for uniform dates and hunting opportunity in these parishes.
7. Changed format with season dates, bag limits and either sex days at beginning of hunting regulations pamphlet in table form.

### Turkey

1. No major changes with season; dates adjusted for calendar.
2. Sherburne and Georgia Pacific WMA will be opened for the first time with a short 9 day season.
3. Portions of Tensas and Concordia east of the mainline levee have been included in the Area E.

### Wildlife Management Areas

1. Established uniform rabbit beagle season and squirrel dog season on those areas that have special dog seasons.
2. On WMAs that had special handicapped and youth hunts, this year there will be no separation of the two groups and both groups will share the entire area or that portion designated. This change will not apply to Dewey Wills WMA.
3. Established a turkey season on Sherburne/Atchafalaya and Georgia Pacific WMA.
4. Moved Thistlethwaite 2nd weekend lottery later in the year.



# DRAFT

RESIDENT GAME BIRDS AND ANIMALS  
(Shooting hours - one-half hour  
before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset)

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Quail	Nov. 24-Feb. 28	10	20
Rabbit	Oct. 1-Feb. 28	8	16
Squirrel	Oct. 1-Jan. 29	8	16
Deer	See Schedule	<u>NEW</u> 1 antlered and 1 antlerless (when legal)	6/season (By all methods)
Turkey	See Schedule	1	3/season

## DEER HUNTING SCHEDULE

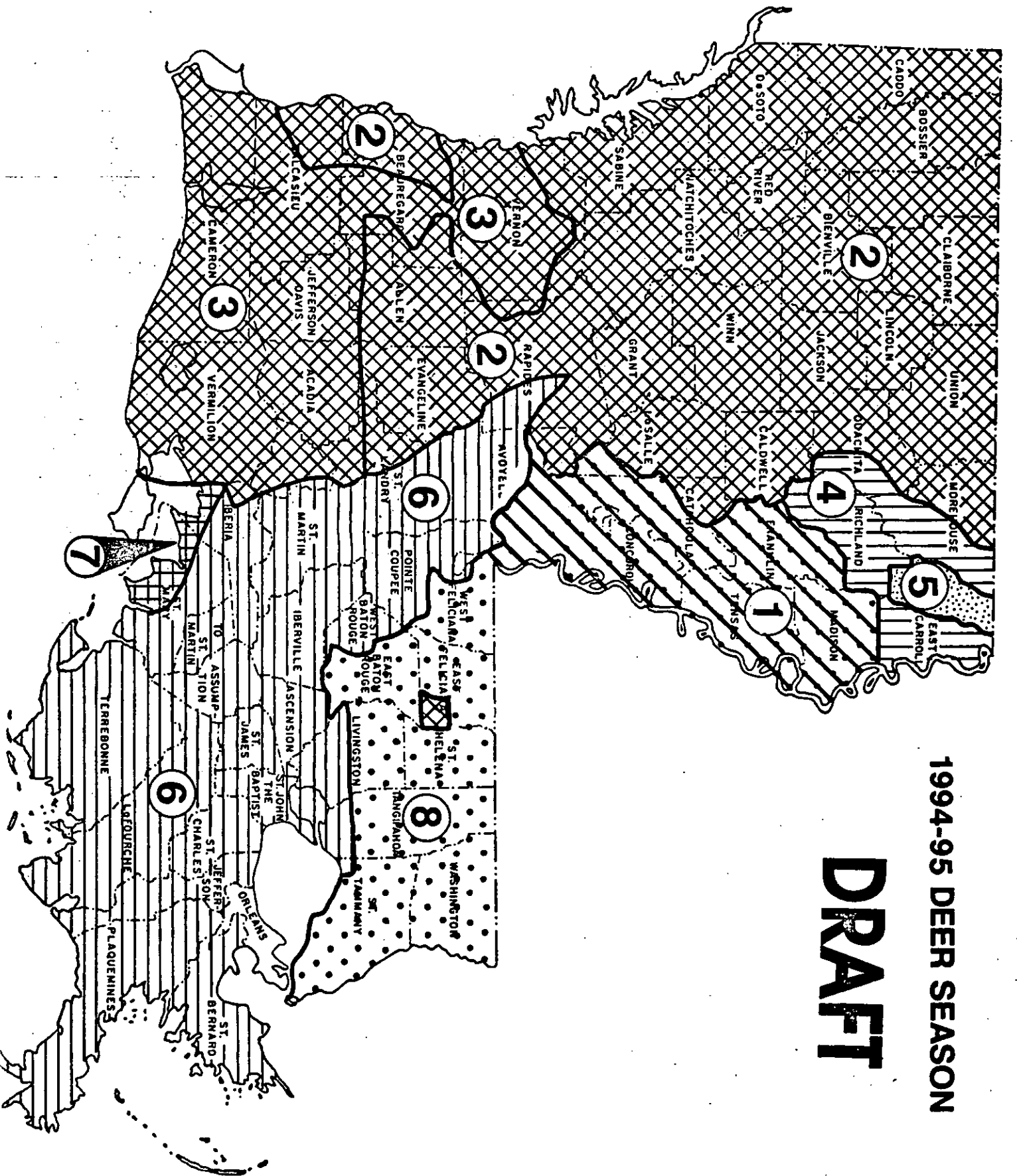
AREA	ARCHERY	STILL HUNT	MUZZLELOADER (All Either Sex)	WITH OR WITHOUT DOGS
1	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Nov. 19-Dec. 4 Jan. 6-Jan. 16	Dec. 5-Dec. 9	Dec. 10-Jan. 5
2	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Oct. 29-Dec. 4	Dec. 5-Dec. 9	Dec. 10-Jan. 5
3	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Oct. 29-Dec. 4 Dec. 10-Jan. 5	Dec. 5-Dec. 9	
4	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Nov. 19-Dec. 4 Dec. 10-Jan. 8	Dec. 5-Dec. 9	
5	Oct. 1-Jan. 22		Dec. 5-Dec. 9	
6	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Nov. 19-Dec. 2	Dec. 3-Dec. 9	Dec. 10-Jan. 22
7	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Oct. 29-Nov. 2 Nov. 19-Nov. 27	Dec. 3-Dec. 9	Dec. 10-Jan. 22
8	Oct. 1-Jan. 22	Nov. 19-Dec. 2 Jan. 6-Jan. 22	Dec. 3-Dec. 9	Dec. 10-Jan. 5

## TURKEY HUNTING SCHEDULE

AREA	SEASON DATES
A	Mar. 25-Apr. 23
B	Mar. 18-Apr. 23
D	Apr. 8-Apr. 23
E	Mar. 25-Apr. 2

1994-95 DEER SEASON

DRAFT



## RESOLUTION

### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

- WHEREAS,** sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and
- WHEREAS,** sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contributes significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated 898,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana spend in excess of one billion dollars annually, and
- WHEREAS,** Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and
- WHEREAS,** Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 6-12, 1994 as

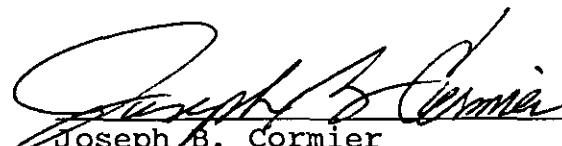
### FISHING WEEK

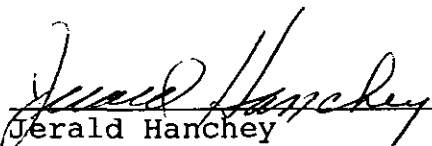
in the State of Louisiana, and

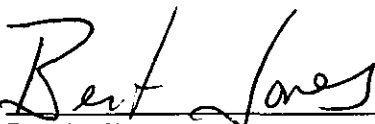
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that June 11 & 12, 1994 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

DATE: April 7, 1994

  
John F. "Jeff" Schneider  
Chairman

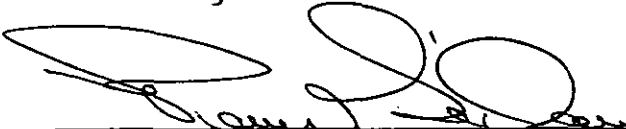
  
Joseph B. Cormier  
Vice Chairman

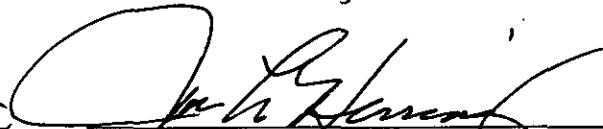
  
Gerald Hanchey

  
Bert Jones

  
Peter Vujnovich

  
Tee John Mialjevich

  
Perry Gisclair

  
Joe L. Herring, Secretary

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**April 7, 1994**

John F. Schneider, Chairman

Joseph B. Cormier, Vice Chariman

Bert Jones

Perry Gisclair

Jerald Hanchey

Peter G. Vujnovich

Tee John Mialjevich

Joe L. Herring, Secretary

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**April 7, 1994**

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Joseph B. Cormier, Vice Chariman

Bert Jones

Perry Gisclair

Jerald Hanchey

Peter G. Vujnovich

Tee John Mialjevich

Joe L. Herring, Secretary

# **BAYOU D'ARBONNE LAKE COMMISSION**

## **RESOLUTION**

At the regular meeting of the Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission at its domicile in Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana, on March 15, 1994, with a quorum of members in attendance, the following resolution was passed by a majority vote of members present.

**WHEREAS**, Controversy over netting and its effect on sport fish population has continued between sport fishermen and net fishermen on Bayou D'Arbonne Lake and,

**WHEREAS**, this commission recognized this to be a real problem and has accepted written comments from interested parties and also held a public hearing on February 15, 1994, to hear all sides of the issue and,

**WHEREAS**, evidence has been presented by regular users of the lake that the proliferation of hoop nets in the channels of Little D'Arbonne, Corney and Big D'Arbonne in the lake has occurred to the point where it is, from a practical stand point, excessive and,

**WHEREAS**, the use of the smaller rigid type hoop nets, commonly called "Fiddler Nets" or "Texas Style" nets, are being widely used on spawning beds and in game fish holding areas in the sloughs and on the flats throughout the lake and,

**WHEREAS**, evidence has been submitted indicating game fish are caught regularly in all type hoop nets and that many net fishermen are not returning their catch of game fish to the lake and,

**WHEREAS**, evidence has been submitted indicating enforcement of the law against keeping game fish caught in hoop nets is not, and perhaps cannot, be carried out and,

**WHEREAS**, evidence has been submitted that whole areas of the lake such as Little D'Arbonne Channel that formerly were productive sportfishing areas now have extremely heavy concentrations of hoop nets and have become almost dead water as far as sport fishing, especially for crappie and bream, is concerned.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the commissioners of Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission hereby request that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission take necessary action to allow commercial fin fish to be taken in D'Arbonne Lake from Gill's Ferry to the dam on the Little D'Arbonne arm and from Hog Pen landing on the Corney arm to the dam, with slat traps, any pole, line, the device known as yo-yo, the device known as trigger device, hand line, with any trotline wherein hooks are not less than twenty-four inches apart, with bows and arrows, or by any skin-diver when submerged in the water and using standard spearing equipment and by no other means.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the effective date be at the earliest practical time.

**Resolution**

Page 2

March 15, 1994

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries be asked to strictly enforce these and all other laws and regulations governing fishing, hunting and boating on D'Arbonne Lake.

Said Resolution having been read and considered, on motion by Commissioner Member Hewitt Carter, seconded by Commissioner Member Cleo Foster, to adopt the Resolution, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: 3

NAYS: 2

ABSENT: 0

WHEREOF said Resolution was declared passed and adopted on this date.

**ATTEST TRUE AND CORRECT COPY:**

**BAYOU D'ARBONNE LAKE WATERSHED  
DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Ginger Petrus  
Ginger Petrus, Secretary/Treasurer

William T. Lowe  
William T. Lowe, President

# **D'ARBONNE LAKE**

## **NET ISSUE AND REPORT**

**April 5, 1994**



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## SYNOPSIS

The issue of sports fishing and commercial fishing has been a controversy for some time. There have been debates as to the rights and privileges of both groups; who should be allowed to fish; where they should be allowed to fish.

I believe these decision should not be based on the emotions or individual assumptions of any one user group, but on factual information collected and analyzed by an impartial body.

Part of that management includes the controlled harvest of these resources, providing the public with food as well as many thousands of man-hours of recreation.

I was in attendance at the public hearing held to discuss the opinions of the citizens concerning the sports fishing population in D'Arbonne Lake. There were arguments on both sides with each user group making statements concerning the fish population and what should be done to make the sports fishing better in the lake. I believe everyone is in agreement to the fact that we want to all fish and be successful.

I have polled the agents that frequently patrol on D'Arbonne Lake (see chart as to agents and man hours worked on D'Arbonne) and they have told me they have seen a number of very successful crappie fishermen on D'Arbonne Lake. According to their statements, they could not see a significant, if any, decline in crappie on D'Arbonne Lake.

I might note the observations of the agents are based on what they have encountered while on patrol and not any part of a scientific creel census.

I also will say, without any hesitation, that D'Arbonne Lake has as much enforcement efforts as any lake located in North Louisiana (see chart on man hours, page 5). This lake has aggressive enforcement with 373 cases being made by enforcement agents from January 1, 1993 to March 16, 1994. Some of the significant cases are as follows:

1. Two cases for slat trap fishermen taking undersize catfish.
2. Five cases for fishing commercial gear with recreational license.
3. Two cases for taking game fish by illegal methods.
4. Seven cases for intoxicated while driving a boat.

I have heard people say "They never have seen a wildlife agent while on D'Arbonne Lake" and others say "I get checked every time I get on the lake".

It is true that agents do check net fishermen more because they have more opportunity to catch larger numbers of fish. I can assure every person and user group that agents check them even more than they realize. This is done by using night scopes, binoculars and spotting scopes. The agents also concentrate on the flagrant violations and respond to the complaints from the public.

There will never be enough wildlife agents to catch everyone that violates the game laws and this is where the public comes in

to play. I have a handout I give to all sportsmen when they ask me how to get in touch with a wildlife agent, and I have included one of these in this packet (see attachment page 9).

I have also asked our communication section to search the files to see how many complaints we have received from the public and sportsmen concerning illegal fishing on D'Arbonne Lake. As you will note, we received one complaint concerning this matter. The communication section is manned twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week, with every complaint logged on a complaint form (see pages 6-7). This number is a toll-free number and can be reached by dialing 1-800-442-2511.

There is also another way to lodge a complaint; by asking the communication officer to consider your complaint an Operation Game Thief (OGT) Complaint. This would make the caller eligible for a reward that ranges from \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 if an arrest is made with the information from that complaint. These complaints are logged by communication personnel, but none were found during the time period January 1, 1993 to March 16, 1994.

I have urged everyone involved to take the time to call this toll-free number and give us information concerning fish and game violations. The more eyes there are watching, the better chance we would have to make apprehensions of game and fish thieves.

NUMBER OF MAN-HOURS WORKED ON D'ARBONNE LAKE  
JANUARY 1, 1993 - MARCH 16, 1994

LT. MIKE ROCKETT	SGT. PAUL ABERCROMBIE	SGT. JOHN WILLIAMSON
440	597	553

SR. AGT. MIKE MURRAY	SR. AGT. DAVID SNELL	SR. AGT. SPILLERS.
188	463	248

TOTAL DAYS WORKED 311

TOTAL MAN-HOURS 2,489

SOURCE: EACH AGENT'S INDIVIDUAL TIME SHEETS

\*\*THESE ARE THE PRIMARY AGENTS THAT WORK THIS AREA. OTHER AGENTS HAVE PERIODICALLY WORKED ON THIS LAKE, BUT WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS DATA.

# MEMORANDUM

To: Capt. Brad Smith  
 From: Capt. Keith LaCaze  
 Ref: Communications Records of Violation Complaints  
 Union Parish Lake Darbonne

As per your request I have reviewed our records from July 1, 1993, through present in search of complaints of illegal game fish activity on Lake Darbonne. To date we have received one (1) complaint of such activity. This complaint was received on Nov. 5, 1993 at 5:04PM. The information reported was the taking of crappie with hoop nets in Lake Darbonne near the new state park.

No other information regarding violator identity, or boat or vehicle descriptions was offered. Neither was any time as to when the violation was occurring.

This information was relayed to unit 207 by message at 5:10PM on the same date. 207 returned the call at 6:09PM and accepted the complaint. Advise if I can provide any additional information or assistance.

FAX		DATE 2/29/94	PAGES 2	FROM K. LaCaze
TO B. Smith	CO. DWF/ENFORCEMENT		PH# 504-765-2989	
CO. R 2	FAX# 504-765-2832			
MESSAGE				

## 800 COMPLAINT FORM

ITEM# 9311051704

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH: Union

PHONE# ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

VIOLATION: Hoop Net white PerchCOMMENTS: Farmerville LA Lake Barren Lake Darbornclose to new state park "mixing hole"Does Night her inVEH. TRUCK ☐ DOMESTIC ☐ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_  
DESC: CAR ☐ FOREIGN ☐

DISTINGUISHING MARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

# SUBJECTS: \_\_\_\_\_ RACE: W ☐ O ☐ B ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BOAT DESC: SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ FT. REG.# \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ DECAL# \_\_\_\_\_

FIBERGLASS ☐ STEEL ☐ WOOD ☐ INBOARD ☐ OUTBOARD ☐

DISTINGUISHING MARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT# <u>507</u>	ACCEPTED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEFT MESSAGE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TIME: <u>1709</u>	DATE: _____
UNIT# <u>200</u>	ACCEPTED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEFT MESSAGE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TIME: <u>1710</u>	DATE: _____
UNIT# <u>201</u>	ACCEPTED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEFT MESSAGE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TIME: <u>1709</u>	DATE: _____
UNIT# _____	ACCEPTED <input type="checkbox"/>	N/C <input type="checkbox"/>	LEFT MESSAGE <input type="checkbox"/>	TIME: _____	DATE: _____

EMPLOYEE# 10310OPERATOR'S NAME D.H. MayerCASE MADE ☐ NO CASE MADE ☐ # TICKETS \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

CASES WRITTEN ON D'ARBONNE LAKE  
JANUARY 1, 1993 - MARCH 16, 1994

TOTAL CASES INVOLVING FISHING AND BOATING-----373

MAJOR CASES:

1. Two cases for slat trap fishermen taking undersized catfish.
2. Five cases for fishing commercial gear with recreational license.
3. Two cases for taking game fish by illegal methods.
4. Seven Cases for intoxicated while driving a boat



# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 4004  
Monroe, LA 71211  
(318) 343-4044

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

December 21, 1993

Dear Louisiana Sportsman:

The Sportsmen of the State of Louisiana have been an asset to the Enforcement Division concerning violations and the reporting of these violations to us.

The most effective way the Enforcement Division can carry out their program is for interested groups and individuals to report the thieves that steal from you!

Today in Region II (eight parishes in Northeast Louisiana) we have eight less agents than we did in 1979. This necessitates the cooperation and communication between the sportsmen and the Enforcement Agents.

The following is the quickest and most efficient way to contact an agent in your area:

Weekdays 8:00 a. m. - 4:30 p.m. Monroe Region Office  
(318) 343-2417 or

(318) 362-3139

After office hours and weekends 1-800-442-2511 (Toll-free)

Your local Sheriff's Office

or Louisiana State Police  
(318) 345-0000

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brad Smith".

Captain Brad Smith, Regional Supervisor

# LICENSE SALES BY PARISH AROUND D'ARBONNE LAKE\*

PARISH	COMMERCIAL HOOP NET			COMMERCIAL SLAT TRAP			RECREATIONAL HOOP NET			RECREATIONAL SLAT TRAP			NON-RES REC HOOP	
	1989	1993	1994	1989	1993	1994	1989	1993	1994	1989	1993	1994	1993	1994
CLAIBORNE	0	3	1	0	0	0	5	11	6	1	4	2	0	0
LINCOLN	6	8	7	2	1	1	11	35	34	1	14	16	0	0
MOREHOUSE	39	26	19	1	3	2	12	46	47	0	3	4	0	0
OUACHITA	32	27	27	0	6	5	95	122	108	16	32	31	0	0
UNION	44	45	34	0	8	5	71	137	152	10	25	22	1	1

\* Source - Commercial License Section, Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries  
 Unable to determine bodies of water fished

THE LAKE D'ARBONNE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

THE LAKE D'ARBONNE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS:

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary-Treasurer

James McGee  
Ralph Bernard  
Jean Tucker

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Willard Newman  
David Smith  
Elvis Rogers

J. C. Tucker  
Cecil Rogers  
George Ussery

THE LAKE D'ARBONNE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP LIST, 1994

James McGee (Nellie) 368-9396	Rt. 1, Box 172-P14 Bernice, La. 71222
Thurmon Coley (Viola) 368-8697	Rt. 4, Box 28 Farmerville, La. 71241
Toni Smith 368-7842	Rt. 1, Box 172-K1 Bernice, La. 71222
Ralph Bernard (Margaret Ann) 368-8808	Rt. 1, Box 172-K Bernice, La. 71222
Jim Thomas 368-2365	P.O. Box 64 Farmerville, La. 71241
Pete Ussery (Jean) 368-2958	Rt. 1, Box 172-P4 Bernice, La. 71222
J.C. Tucker (Jean) 368-3231	Rt. 1, Box 172-20 Bernice, La. 71222
Sidney Fruge (Mary) 368-2739	Rt. 1, Box 172-R Bernice, La. 71222
Edgar Smith (Dorothy) 368-2114	Rt. 1, Box 178 Bernice, La. 71222
David Smith (Ruth) 368-8069	Rt. 1, Box 172-J Bernice, La. 71222
Elvis Rogers (Faye) 368-9056	Rt. 1, Box 175-J Bernice, La. 71222
R.L. Abercrombie (Pat) 368-2080	Rt. 1, Box 175-X Bernice, La. 71222
Bobby Gates (Scarlett) 628-1132	P.O. Box 55 Winnfield, La. 71483
Chris Adkins (Edith) 285-0463	Rt. 1, Box 22304 Bernice, La. 71222
Kerry Jones (Donna) 409-568-9907	1410 Martinville Rd. Nacogdoches, Tx. 75961
Mr. & Mrs. David M. Burnside 778-0739	Rt. 2, Box 180 Spearsville, La. 71277
Wayne Abercrombie (Ellen) 368-8620	Rt. 1, Box 208 Bernice, La. 71222

Billy W. Tucker (Carol) 368-2390	Wards Chapel Road Farmerville, La. 71241
Jerry Kelly (Patricia) 343-5212	1433 Finks Hiway Road Monroe, La. 71203
Randy Hanks (Lesa) 387-4131	542 Woodhaven Monroe, La. 71202
Penn Bankston (Pat) 368-9171	Rt. 4, Box 30 Farmerville, La. 71241
Kenneth Johnston (Pat) 726-7703	Rt. 2, Box 214 Farmerville, La. 71241
John C. Wortham (Karen) 368-3418	Rt. 1, Box 201 Bernice, La. 71222
Robert E. Newman (Opal) 368-3214	P.O. Box 273 Farmerville, La. 71241
Raoul Longlinais 982-7235	Rt. 1, Box 18700 Downsville, La. 71234
M. E. Scott 982-5694	Rt.1, Box 179-D Downsville, La. 71234
Stewart M. Scott 982-5694	Rt. 1, Box 179-D Downsville, La. 71234
Willard Newman (Mildred) 396-3784	1502 Willis Street West Monroe, La. 71291
Cleo Foster 982-5218	Rt. 1, Box 187-B Downsville, La. 71234
Mr. & Mrs. James Tolbert 368-9684	Rt. 4, Box 47-D Farmerville, La. 71241
W. O. Downing (Jean)	830 Downing Pines Rd. West Monroe, La. 71291
Cecil Rogers (Billie) 368-2480	Rt. 1, Box 175-F Bernice, La. 71222
James M. Anderson 368-9669	701 Sterlington Rd Farmerville, La. 71241
Luther Colvin (Lanenl) 777-3781	Rt. 3, Box 172 Dubach, La. 71235
W. B. Smith (Priscilla) 777-3958	263 Dubach, La. 71235

Joe C. Smith (Loraine) 377-3991	Dubach, La 71235
Leon Davis (Sue) 777-3904	Rt. 2, Box 204 Dubach, La. 71235
B. F. Hamilton (Twillla) 251-0572	2517 Briarhill Ruston, La
Roland Campbell (Clara) 777-3690	Rt. 2, Box 006 Dubach, La. 71235
Lamar W. Colvin (Dot) 777-3696	Rt. 3, Box 155 Dubach, La. 71235
Charlie G. Colvin (Sarah) 777-3355	Box 117 Dubach, La. 71235
Mike Newsom (Patti) 343-8080	304 Shenandoah Drive Monroe, La. 71203
Pete Colvin (Evelyn) 377-1582	623 Pine Street Minden, La. 71055
John T, McKeithan (Elaine) 777-3396	P.O. Box 113 Dubach, La. 71235
George L. Trammell, Jr. 777-3622 (Margaret)	P. O. Box 71 Dubach, La. 71235
James M. Newsom (Fern) 777-3957	P.O. Box 463 Dubach, La. 71235
T. L. Brooks (Edith) 285-7517	P. O. Box 470 Bernice, La. 71222
Mrs. Ruth McGee 428-3568	Box 1292 Hwy. 879 Oak Grove, La. 71263
Robert McGee (Joann) 343-9744	206-B Balboa Monroe, La. 71203
Charles Heard (Sandy) 368-8923	Rt. 1, Box 172-P-5 Bernice, La. 71222
Sam Brinson (Joann) 396-3776	820 Florence West Monroe, La. 71291
Jon Wirtheringotn (Wanda) 368-2138	Rt. 1, Box 172-P-3 Bernice, La. 71222
Jimmy Clowers (Joyce) 368-2960	Rt. 1, Box 172-P-9 Bernice, La. 71222
A. T. Orr	Rt. 1, Box 175-B

Jeff Monk 368-3827	Rt, 1, Box 175-E-5 Bernice, La. 71222
Butch Siratt 501-863-4919	926 Maplewood E1 Dorado, Ark. 71730
Penn Bankston (Bobby) 368-8528	Rt. 1, Box 172-P-10 Bernice, La. 71222
Joe McGee 368-7903	Rt. 1, Box 175-E-2 Bernice, La. 71222
Lavelle Paschal (Sharon) 368-2031	Rt. 1, Box 172-T-1 Bernice, La. 71222
Mike McGinty (Cathy) 409-938-7769	80 Bayou Vista Drive Hitchcock, Tx 77563
Charlie Williams (Gay) 368-2868	Rt. 1, Box 175-G-X Bernice, La. 71222
Jay B. McCallum (Deanna) 368-3348	205 E. Jackson Farmerville, La. 71241
R.C. Holliday (Brenda) 368-9462	Rt. 1, Box 175-20 Bennice, La. 71222
Wanda Eubanks 368-8597	Rt. 1, Box 175-16 Bernice, La. 71222
Stanley Cruse (Bonnie) 368-7249	Rt. 1, Box 179 Bernice, La. 71222
Butch Beach 368-9513	Rt. 1, Box 164-A-6 Bernice, La. 71222
Judy Beach 368-9513	Rt. 1, Box 164-A-6 Bernice, La. 71222
Joyce Beach 368-8973	Rt. 1, Box 164-A-6 Bernice, La. 71222
Mac Marlette 325-3259	410 Stubbs Ave. Monroe, La. 71201
Joe Reljac (Cathy) 343-3435	805 Fortune Monroe, La. 71203
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Bowman 368-9953	P. O. Box 114 Farmerville, La. 71241
Jimmy D. Simpson (Mary) 368-8932	Rt. 1, Box 206-B Bernice, La. 71222



Margie Wade 368-9627	Rt. 1, Box 172-H Bernice, La. 71222
Ethel Lancaster 368-3646	Rt. 1, Box 146-A-F Bernice, La. 71222
Mickey Smith (Diane) 343-7483	84 Quail Ridge Dr. Monroe, La. 71203
Eddie Stewart Jr. 324-1119	7098 Auburn Ave. Monroe, La. 71201
Matthew W. Gilbert (Anne) 396-7570	300 D'Arbonne Dr. West Monroe, La. 71291
Thomas Ross (Joyce) 343-8972	205 Woodlawn Dr. Monroe, La. 71203
J. Larry Turner (Patsy) 387-2320	3201 Armond, Suite D Monroe, La. 71211
Dennis Reeves (Teresa) 285-9295	Rt. 1, Box 209 Bernice, La. 71222
James T. Connors 982-5320	Rt. 1, Box 11872 Downsville, La. 71234
George Foster	Rt. 4, Box 131 Farmerville, La. 71241
George Younger 323-1287	410 Pine Ridge Rd. West Monroe, La. 71201
Jerry Harper 254-0452	Rt. 5, Box 910 #11 Ruston, La. 71270
James Harper 255-8708	1500 Avon Ave. Ruston, La. 71270
Murry Strutman 396-3687	1876 Ark. Road West Monroe, La. 71291
Harold Bradshaw 982-5384	Rt. 1, Box 11187 Downsville, La. 71234
John Bradshaw 255-5063	2106 Farmerville Hwy. Ruston, La. 71270
Carl McGee (Sandra) 901-422-2947	435 LIberty Claybrook Bech Bluff, Tenn. 38313
David Austin (Joy) 501-862-0186	1236 N. Miles El Dorado, Ark. 71730
Roland Austin (Nelda)	Rt. 1, Box 213-B

285-7351	Bernice, La. 71222
Larry Gilbert (Kathy) 285-7492	605 3rd. Street Bernice, La. 71222
James C. Simpson (Gloria) 285-7626	Rt. 1, Box 213-A-1 Bernice, La. 71222
James & Randy Beck 255-7450	Ruston, La.
Jim Bradford 388-2033	3322 Deborah Drive Monroe, La. 71203
James K. Houston 322-2000	1910 Oakmont Monroe, La. 71201
James C. Houston 322-2000	2709 Indian Mound Monroe, La. 71201
Scott Bradford (Stacy) 322-4892	508 Woodhaven Monroe, La. 71203
Jon Bradford 387-8409	109 Brookwood Monroe, La. 71203
Allen West (Ann) 388-0083	3380 Deborah Dr. Monroe, La. 71202
Tommy Aitken 345-2172	120 Raymond Dr. Monroe, La. 71203
Michael D. Cummings 343-1428	1342 Hideaway Rd. Monroe, La. 71203
Ralph Norman 387-3803	2725 Bayou Lane Monroe, La. 71201
Chip Norman 396-3307	220 Briarclift West Monroe, La. 71291
Doug Norman 343-6416	104 Timberwood Monroe, La. 71203
Joe K. Reljac 343-3435	805 Fortune Drive Monroe, La. 71203
Larry Blackman (Terry) 322-8952	2901 Laney Circle Monroe, La. 71201
Chris Permenter (Tonya) 322-0799	46 Randy Road West Monroe, La. 71292
Kenneth Wheeler 345-5385	606 Fortune Drive Monroe, La. 71203

Charles Carmichael  
387-4619

2906 Anita Lane  
Monroe, La. 71201

Mr. William T. Lowe, President  
Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed  
District Commission  
P.O. Box 1613  
Ruston, La. 71273-1613

Dear Mr. Lowe:

As president of a newly formed organization known as the D'Arbonne Lake Preservation Association, I attended the January meeting of the Commission. A letter was presented to you requesting the Commission to seek prohibition of hoop nets in the lake.

Subsequently, the Commission called a public meeting for February 15, 1994 to allow comments and opinions from interested parties. The Commission also invited written information.

The purpose of this letter is two-fold. First we want to show how and why hoop netting is badly damaging the lake. Secondly we want to ask the Commission to adopt a resolution requesting the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to enact a ban on all forms of netting and see to its enforcement.

#### HISTORY

Previous to 1984 all forms of netting legal in the state were legal and practiced on Lake D'Arbonne. Netting was determined to be detrimental to the sport fish population. Your attention is invited to the report of a study conducted by biologists from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in 1983 and attached as "Exhibit A."

The following recommendations were made in that report:  
"Based on these data, it is recommended that the use of trammel nets, gill nets, flag netting, seines and hoop nets be banned in D'Arbonne Lake. It is recommended that the use of trot lines, limb lines, and slat traps be permitted in D'Arbonne Lake. Use of these gears will allow the commercial fisherman to catch the catfish that exist in the lake. "

Your attention is invited to the copy of "Minutes of Meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission of June 5, 1984" attached as "Exhibit B. " On the second page you will find recorded the Commissions action in banning all forms of netting except hoop nets on D'Arbonne Lake. The Commission allowed hoop nets to remain legal despite the Department's biologists recommendations they be banned.

You will also note on page 3 of the minutes that Commission

Chairman George Gray asked enforcement Chief Colonel Ray Montet for more enforcement on Lake D'Arbonne. According to Mr. and Mrs. H.D. Carter who attended that meeting the Commission left hoop nets legal for the harvest of catfish. Mr. Gray's remark to Colonel Montet was implying specifically that the law against keeping game fish caught in hoop nets needed more enforcement.

After the ban on other types of netting in Lake D'Arbonne the use of hoop nets proliferated. Recently hoop nets were banned in Lake Claiborne. Also, federal and state officials have announced that mercury levels in the flesh of some fish caught in neighboring rivers and bayous is excessive. These two events have caused a further increase of hoop nets in Lake D'Arbonne. Now, in the lake, the channels of Little D'Arbonne and Corney as well as Big D'Arbonne are lined with hoop nets (See "Exhibit C")

In addition the small rigid type hoop nets commonly called "Texas Style" or "Fiddler Nets" are fished in the flats and sloughs throughout the lake. They are in effect legalized fish traps being covered with one inch netting instead of chicken wire to make them legal (See "Exhibit D"). They are placed around spawning beds in spring and in the best fishing spots in summer and fall.

These hoop nets of both types are fished by those holding both commercial and recreational licenses. They are catching catfish, the only commercial fish with a harvestable population in the lake (See "Exhibit A"). But, they are also catching sport fish; bass, crappie, yellow bass and bream in large numbers (See "Exhibit C")

Due to the lack of enforcement (see below) most of these sport fish are not being returned to the lake. Your attention is invited to "Exhibit C", statements of a representative number of people who use the lake regularly and have knowledge of the number of nets in the lake and how they are fished. In the interest of brevity we kept the number small. There could have been many more. But, we believe these statements are accurate and give a true account of what is happening to the sport fish in Lake D'Arbonne.

#### ENFORCEMENT

At the time the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission failed to ban hoop nets in Lake D'Arbonne it was their intent that the law requiring game fish caught in hoop nets be returned to the lake be strictly enforced. That is reflected by Commission Chairman Gray's

remark to Colonel Montet ("Exhibit B").

But, this is not being done. It is realized that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has a budget crunch. But the fact remains, enforcement is weak. Many, many of us who use the lake almost daily for a good part of the year have never seen a game warden on the water. We have never been checked for anything including the number of fish we have caught.

It is realized that catching those who keep game fish caught in hoop nets is difficult and time consuming. It is a large lake and many run their nets at night. Perhaps with budget restrictions it is impossible. However, we do know of many reports of violations by the public with no visible results ("Exhibit D").

In light of the lack of citations, those who keep game fish caught in hoop nets have grown bolder and bolder. We have statements of people who have seen them openly pour them out of nets and into the boat despite knowing someone is watching ("Exhibit D").

An analysis of tickets issued on Lake D'Arbonne by Game Wardens over the 3 year period, 1991-1993, was made. The information was obtained from the Clerk of Court of Union Parish. The results follow:

CITATIONS ISSUED FOR VIOLATIONS ON LAKE D'ARBONNE

<u>Violations</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Fishing without license	96	81%
No Observer in ski boat	2	2%
No personal flotation device	10	8%
No boat registration	4	3%
Littering	4	3%
Undersize catfish from hoop nets	1	1%
Keeping black crappie caught in hoop nets	2	2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

Over a three year period 119 citations for an average 39.6 per year were issued. Ninety six or 81% of those citations were for fishing without license and most appear to have been bank fishermen.

Only two citations were issued for keeping game fish caught in hoop nets. This was a single incident. Two men fishing together were cited for keeping 15 black crappie caught in hoop nets.

## CONCLUSIONS

It has now become quite difficult for even those sportsfishermen who know the lake well and are expert at their type of fishing to catch fish on a sustained and regular basis ("Exhibit C"). It is with few exceptions, impossible for a visitor to do so.

The lake is hurting; we believe it can sustain a much larger population of game fish if they weren't so consistently removed by the hoop nets. When the lake is hurting the economy of this whole area hurts.

We are convinced the lake is overrun with hoop nets and the intent of many of those who fish them is to catch game fish as well as catfish ("Exhibit C"). We believe any form of netting in most Louisiana impoundments is detrimental, especially in Lake D'Arbonne.

There are, of course, those who sport fish and occasionally catch and keep over the limit. The incidents are few due to the difficulty in catching fish by sports means. Lack of a Game Warden presence on the water checking catches is partly to blame. But these few occurrences do not begin to compare with the vast numbers of sport fish caught in hoop nets and kept by those who catch them.

It is realized there are some commercial fisherman who are honest and throw back their catch of game fish. Based on experience and our checking with a large number of people, we are convinced that those who do throw game fish back, both commercial and recreational netters, are the exception.

These conclusions were reached by myself and many others who use and are on the lake throughout the year. We have observed the proliferation of hoop nets in the lake. We have on many occasions seen and heard of netters keeping, giving away and even selling game fish. We have observed the lack of enforcement on the lake. We have seen the catch of game fish by sports fishing methods steadily decline. The time for the removal of hoop nets from Lake D'Arbonne has come. The time for strict enforcement of fishing and boating laws on Lake D'Arbonne is here.

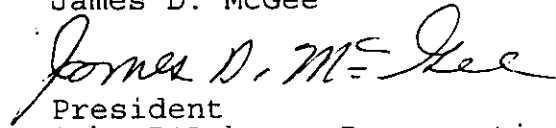
## RECOMMENDATIONS

Enclosed as Exhibit E is a proposed Resolution seeking the elimination of hoop nets from Lake D'Arbonne. We recommend

that this or a similar resolution be adopted by the D'Arbonne Lake Commission and sent to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for consideration.

It is also recommended that the D'Arbonne Lake Commission make every effort possible to bring about strict enforcement if and when the hoop nets are banned.

James D. McGee

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James D. McGee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

President

Lake D'Arbonne Preservation Association



"EXHIBIT A"

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES OF A STUDY  
DONE IN 1983.

## D'ARBONNE LAKE NETTING BAN RECOMMENDATION

Commercial fishing in man-made reservoirs has become a controversial issue in the past few years. This controversy has been caused by conflicts between sport fishermen and commercial fishermen. It is an issue that cannot be avoided. It can best be solved by an indepth study of the fish population structure of a given body of water.

The Lake Commission of D'Arbonne Lake is presently confronted with this controversial issue and has requested the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to present findings from their fish population and netting studies on D'Arbonne Lake. The Department's recommendations to this Commission are based on these data.

### Data Collection Methods

Annually, 8 to 12 one acre fish population samples to determine standing crop (pounds per acre) of fish in D'Arbonne Lake have been taken since 1967, except during 1975. At each sampling site, a one surface acre of water is blocked-off with a net that is 20 feet deep and has a bar mesh size of one-half inch. Average depth of the sample area is determined and amount of rotenone needed to produce 1 ppm concentration is calculated. The rotenone is then

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distributed throughout the water column by injecting with the aid of a pump.

All the fish that are killed and surface are picked up. The net remains in place overnight and the fish that float-up the second day are also picked up and data combined with the first day pick-up. All fish collected are sorted by species, measured in order to place into inch groupings, and weighed. Data is recorded on pre-coded field forms by fish category and sizes. The data is then forwarded to the Department's Computer Section for computation. The results of these samples are identified as standing crop.

Supplemental sampling with gill and trammel nets has been conducted periodically in D'Arbonne Lake. These samples are usually taken during the winter and spring. Mesh sizes of nets fished range from 3 to 4 1/2 inch bar mesh. A 100 yard length of net fished for a 24 hour period is classified as a net day. All fish caught in the net are separated according to species, measured and weighed. Data is calculated according to catch per net day.

## FINDINGS

### Standing Crop Data

D'Arbonne Lake lies within a relatively infertile upland pine-hardwood watershed. This fact is reflected in its fish population standing crop.

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Pounds per acre of fish ranged from 96.70 pounds in 1968 to 203.54 pounds in 1978. Of the 203.54 pounds in 1978, 98.20 pounds or 48.25 percent of the total standing crop was comprised of forage fish; primarily gizzard shad.

Average standing crop for 1981 - 1983 was 187 pounds per acre. A significant observation during these 3 years is that forage fish, primarily shad comprised an average of 138 pounds per acre and made up an average of 74% of the total fish population. These figures reflect an unbalanced situation and corrective measures need to be taken in the near future. Management practices in the past have consisted of lake drawdowns and the stockings of large predatory fish for biological control of the shad populations.

Predatory food fish which consists primarily of catfishes and gars, averaged 5.0 pounds per acre of all sizes of these fish and comprised an average of 2.7% of the total poundage for the period 1981-83. Flathead catfish which is the most popular and sought after of the predatory food fishes in Lake D'Arbonne consists of only 2.6 pounds and comprised an average of only 1.4% of the total pounds per acre.

Non-predatory food fish which consists also of commercial important species, averaged 3.1 pounds per acre and comprised only 1.7% of the total

standing crop for the period 1981-83. This poundage was made up primarily of spotted suckers. The 3 year (1981-83) average pounds per acre of spotted suckers was 2.7 pounds and this specie comprised 1.4% of the total poundage. Spotted suckers, as far as we can ascertain at the present time, has no commercial value. No drum or buffalo fishes, which are the species of greatest commercial value in this category, were collected during 1981-83.

#### Gill Net Data

Analyses of data from fish captured in 3, 3 1/2 and 4 inch leaded gill nets for the period November, 1982 - February, 1983 shows a relatively low poundage of fish caught for this type of gear.

A total of 139 pounds of fish of all species were caught in the 3 inch leaded gill nets in 25 net days. Seventy-five pounds of the fish caught were predatory game fish that was made up of 55.8 pounds (40.2%) of striped bass, 8.9 pounds (6.4%) of largemouth bass and 10.3 pounds (7.4%) crappies.

No non-predatory game fish were captured in any of the gill and trammel nets that were fished. This group is what is commonly referred to as bream. This is to be expected, considering the relatively small size of fish in this category and size of the netting used for capture.

Non-predatory food fish captured in the 3 inch leaded gill consisted of 37.2 pounds or 26.8% of the total poundage caught. All of the fish caught in this category were spotted suckers. Predatory food fish comprised 26.5 pounds or 19.1% of the total poundage. Fish caught in this category was made up of only one longnose gar.

Forage fish caught with this gear comprised 0.1 pounds or less than 0.1% and consisted of only one gizzard shad.

The 3 1/2 inch bar mesh leaded gill nets caught a total of 57.2 pounds in 25 net days of fishing.

Predatory game fish comprised 29.8 pounds (52.1%) of the total pounds caught with this gear. Composition of the predatory fish caught was striped bass 20.6 pounds (36%), largemouth bass 3.1 pounds (5.4%), and crappies 5.9 pounds (10.3%).

Non-predatory food fish made up 8.5 pounds of the total catch or 14.9%. Catch in this group consisted of only one carp and one yellow bullhead.

Predatory food fish consisted of 18.9 pounds or 33% of the total catch.

Channel catfish catch consisted of 10 pounds (17.5%) and blue catfish comprised 8.9 pounds (15.5%).

No forage fish were caught in the 3 1/2 inch leaded gill nets.

The 4 inch bar mesh leaded gill nets fished for 25 net days caught a total of 30.2 pounds of fish of all kinds.

Predatory game fish were represented in the catch with 27.3 pounds (90.4%) of the total poundage. Composition consisted of 22.3 pounds (73.8%) striped bass, 3.5 pounds (11.6%) largemouth bass and 1.5 pounds (5%) crappies.

No non-predatory food fish was captured with this gear and only 2.9 pounds (9.6%) of predatory food fish was caught.

Trammel nets of 3 1/2 inch bar mesh only, were fished from January, 1980 to February, 1981 for a total of 56 net days. Total pounds of all fish caught was 146.5 pounds.

Predatory gamefish caught consisted of 45.2 pounds (30.8%) and was composed of striped bass 34.2 pounds (23.3%) and largemouth bass 8.9 pounds (6.1%). No crappies were caught in the 3 1/2 inch trammel netting.

Non-predatory food fish captured in the 3 1/2 inch trammel nets comprised 21.7 pounds or 14.8% of the total catch. All the fish caught in this category were spotted suckers.

Predatory food fish accounted for 79.6 pounds (54.3%) of the total catch for this gear. Flathead catfish comprised 28 pounds (19.1%), channel catfish

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4 pounds (2.7%) and longnose gar 47.6 pounds (32.5%) of the total poundage caught.

No forage fish were caught in the 3 1/2 inch bar mesh trammel nets.

### Recommendations

Based on the standing crop data (pounds per acre) and the gill and trammel net data, commercial species abundance in D'Arbonne Lake is very low. It is hard to understand how a true commercial fisheries could be supported by the lake with such a low commercial fish population. We do recognize the fact that a commercial fisherman's total income might be supplemented by fishing for catfishes (flatheads) in this lake at certain times of the year.

The netting data shows that a substantial amount of predatory game fish are captured by use of gill and trammel nets.

Predatory species in D'Arbonne Lake are valuable from a lake management aspect. These fish have the ability to help control overabundant populations of shad and stunted bluegill. Therefore, the indiscriminate catch and subsequent mortality of these fish caught while fishing for commercial species can be a significant deterrent to the overall well being of the fish population.

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Catches of buffalo fishes and gars can substantially increase a commercial fishermen's total income. No buffalo fishes and few longnose gar were captured during the gill and trammel net samplings. No buffalo fishes have been captured in the rotenone samples since 1978. Based on these data, it can be assumed that the buffalo fishes in D'Arbonne Lake are almost non-existent at this time.

Based on these data, it is recommended that the use of trammel nets, gill nets, flagg netting, seines and hoop nets be banned in D'Arbonne Lake.

It is recommended that the use of trot lines, limb lines, and slat traps be permitted in D'Arbonne Lake. Use of these gears will allow the commercial fishermen to catch the catfish that exist in the Lake.

"EXHIBIT B"

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
COMMISSION OF JUNE 5, 1984.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

June 5, 1984

Chairman George N. Gray, presiding:

Members present:

Dr. Jack Cappel  
Mr. Lyle Crain  
Mr. James Farrelly  
Mr. Dale Vinet

Secretary J. Burton Angelle was present.

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. George N. Gray, on Tuesday, June 5, 1984 at 10:00 AM at the Quail Drive office in Baton Rouge.

A roll call of members was taken.

The invocation was offered by Dr. Jack Cappel.

A motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel to meet and report progress.

A motion was made by Mr. James Farrelly, seconded by Mr. Dale Vinet, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of May 1, 1984.

Mr. Harry Schafer presented the survey report for the period from April 16, 1984 through May 11, 1984. During this time there were a hundred surveys scheduled and sixty-nine of those were surveyed. Twenty-eight were not surveyed because of bad weather and low tide. Three applications were cancelled by the applicants by request and two disputes were settled and the survey crew surveyed the shell plant at Grand Pass. In the office activities there were \$11,353 of rental collected, \$185 survey fees collected, 143 leases were processed; eight tonnage licenses were issued and two dredging licenses were issued.

A few months back the Commission passed the rules and regulations for the Seismic Section. It has gone through both Oversight Committees and is now back for final ratification. It was recommended by Mr. Harry Schafer that these rules and regulations be ratified and adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. James Farrelly, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, for final ratification of seismic rules and regulations. (Copy attached).

Colonel Ray Montet gave the monthly enforcement report. Mr. Dale Vinet commended Colonel Ray Montet for the job they have done in the past month.

Dr. Jack Cappel questioned Colonel Ray Montet on how the Department gets involved in boating accidents. He explained that by law a boat operator or owner has 72 hours to report an accident to the Department. If the accident involves death or injury the accident should be reported in 48 hours. The report usually comes from the Sheriffs' Departments or the local people contact an agent. A newspaper clipping file is also maintained. Mr. James Farrelly asked about the May 25th shrimp opening. Two boats were sent to help direct traffic through the Ostrica Locks and everything went along pretty good. Mr. J. Burton Angelle asked about cases mentioned in the report. Colonel Ray Montet explained that these were people from Mississippi sportfishing without a license.

Bennie Fontenot presented a resolution to the Commission concerning D'Arbonne Lake netting regulations. A motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel, seconded by Mr. Dale Vinet, and passed unanimously, that the resolution be adopted.

(The full text of the resolution  
here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission, the local regulatory body for D'Arbonne Lake passed a resolution at its meeting on February 7, 1984 prohibiting trammel nets, gill nets, flagg nets, and fish seines in D'Arbonne Lake effective June 1, 1984, and subsequently have requested the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to ratify said resolution, and

WHEREAS, studies conducted by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries on D'Arbonne Lake have demonstrated the detrimental effects that use of certain types of commercial fish nets have on gamefish populations, and

WHEREAS, D'Arbonne Lake does not support high poundage of commercial species nor a true commercial fisheries, and

WHEREAS, the most sought after commercial species, catfish (flat-head), can still be harvested adequately using hoop nets, slat traps, trot lines, limb lines, and stump lines, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the use of gill nets, trammel nets, flagg nets and fish seines in D'Arbonne Lake (Union and Lincoln Parishes) and includes all areas between the spillway structure and Gill's Ferry Landing on D'Arbonne Creek and Hogpen Landing on Corney Creek.

Mr. James Farrelly suggested that it would be a good idea to get an update a year from now. Mr. George Gray agreed that an update should be brought before the Commission at least on an annual basis for the next couple of years. Mr. George Gray had also suggested to Colonel Ray Montet during the discussion of the enforcement report that perhaps there is a need for a little more enforcement on Lake D'Arbonne.

Mr. James Farrelly asked Corky Perret to give a report of the progress of the shrimp season. He also suggested that a report be sent to the members of the House and Senate Natural Resources Committee. Mr. Angelle suggested that this report be sent to all members of the Legislature.

Mr. Corky Perret suggested that we invite the Senate and House Natural Resources Committee chairmen to the meeting when the discussion of setting the shrimp season takes place next year. Mr. George Gray thought that was an excellent suggestion.

A motion was made by Mr. Dale Vinet, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, to have the September meeting on the 10th and 11th in Baton Rouge.

A motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel, seconded by Mr. Dale Vinet, to adjourn the meeting.

"EXHIBIT C"

STATEMENTS FROM A REPRESENTATIVE NUMBER OF LAKE USERS.

Mr. Penn Bankston  
Rt. 4, Box 30  
Farmerville, LA 71241

Phone: 318-368-9171

I am 37 years old and have lived on or near Lake D'Arbonne most of my life. My father and I fished trammel and hoop nets for many years. When trammel nets were outlawed in the lake I went to fishing hoop nets exclusively. I was absolutely amazed at the number of white perch that can be caught in hoop nets. For instance, one time last year, 1993, I had a hoop net up near Hog Pen Landing. When I went to raise it, it was so heavy I could hardly pull it in. When I emptied the fish to put them back, we counted over 200 white perch.

Last spring I was fishing for white perch up Little D'Arbonne near the State Park. As I fished with a cane pole, a boat pulled up near me with three men in it. They pulled up a hoop net and emptied about 50 white perch and bream into their boat. They then went on up the channel and emptied another net containing white perch into the boat and then went on out of sight. I have observed similiar incidents on several other occasions. I know that most people who catch game fish in nets do not return them to the lake.

I have quit fishing hoop nets because there are so many in the channel there is no room for any more. The last time I put out a net in the channel, I went out two days later and there were two on top of it.

I have seen the numbers of crappie and bream decline to the point where I just cannot catch enough to eat. I am convinced from my experience as a netter and sport fisherman that netting is destroying the sport fishing in Lake D'Arbonne.

*John D. Bankston* 2-3-9

Chris L. Adkins  
Rt 1 Box 2234  
Bernice, La. 71222

318-285-0463

I am 33 years old and have hunted and fished on Lake D'Arbonne most of my life.

Around the last part of December, 1993, I can't say the exact date, I was going duck hunting near hog pen landing on the Corney end of D'Arbonne lake. After loading my boat and as I was preparing to get in it I observed a man raising a hoop net near where I was.

I saw him empty a number of fish I took to be white perch into the boat from the hoop net. He then pulled over to where I was and talked awhile. I could see the fish he had taken from the net plainly. They were white perch and there was about 25 of them. He indicated he had caught a mess of white perch and was not at all ashamed or afraid.

I am a white perch fisherman who enjoys sportfishing. Up until recently I could catch white perch in the area I saw this netting. Now the fishing has gotten so bad I don't fish for white perch anymore. I believe they have been caught in such numbers in the nets that there are not enough for the sportfishermen.

*Adkins*

*2-7-94*



Mr. James O. Agerton  
Rt. 5, Box 456  
El Dorado, AR 71730

Phone: 318-368-9684

I have been fishing for crappie on Lake D'Arbonne for 27 years and have fished on every part of the lake. Over the years I have watched the number of crappie catchable by sports fishing methods decline. I realize that the number of fish decline as a lake gets older and then levels off. I have seen this in my experience on D'Arbonne Lake.

Over the last few years it has become more and more difficult to catch a mess of crappie on the lake. During that time I have noticed a decided increase in the number of hoop nets in the channel and the "Texas Style" hoop nets on the flats and sloughs.

About three years ago, I think it was the spring of 1991 but I am not sure, I was fishing in the Stowe Creek area. I observed a lone man in a boat raising the rigid style hoop nets and emptying fish into his boat. His nets were in the crappie holes I fish during the spring. He raised two nets very near where I was fishing and I observed him empty 10-15 game fish, mostly crappie into his boat. I mentioned to him that he wasn't supposed to keep game fish caught in nets. He didn't answer and proceeded to his next net.

I reported this incident through a friend via Operation Game Thief. A description of the man's boat and the license number of his truck were provided. I don't know what if anything was done about it.

Mr. James O. Agerton

page 2

I hear frequently through what I consider reliable sources about large numbers of crappie and other game fish being caught in hoop nets and kept by those who catch them. Based on my experience I believe this practice has become so widespread it is seriously effecting the crappie fishing in the lake.

*James O. Agerton*  
*2-1-94*

Mr. David C. Smith  
Rt. 1, Box 172 J  
Bernice, LA 71222

Phone: 318-368-8069

Last spring, 1993, I was fishing for bream near the Cypress Island boat road on Little D'Arbonne. As I fished I observed a boat with one man in it raising hoop nets from the channel. I counted 23 hoop nets he raised between that boat road and Rattle Snake Bend, a distance of less than a mile. He was still raising them as he went out of sight. I was too far away to see what he caught.

As I fish along the channel of Little D'Arbonne, I frequently catch hoop nets with my jig. I know from observation that since the Gill and Trammel nets have been banned in Lake Claiborne and since the mercury scare in the River and Bayou D'Arbonne, the lake has been filled to over capacity with nets.

I have heard on many occasions that some of the netters are selling white perch and I believe this to be true. I have no way to check it out but my information comes from reliable sources.

Over the last 20 years I have watched the sport fishing decline to the point where I can hardly catch a mess of fish. I know in my own mind, unrestrained netting is responsible.

*David C. Smith -*  
*Feb. 1. 1994*

Kinnith D. Johnston  
Rt. 2 Box 214  
Farmerville, La. 71241

318-726-7703

I am 38 years old and have been fishing on Lake D'Arbonne for over 20 years but I quit about a year ago because the number of nets increased to the point where there was no place to set one in the channel without getting it on someone else's. Right now there is a net beside practically every tree on both sides of the Little D'Arbonne Channel.

I also pole fish for white perch and bream. I used to catch plenty up Little D'Arbonne but now there are none to catch. I am convinced the nets have depleted them.

Last year in the spring, I don't remember the exact date, I was pole fishing with shiners down near Bear Creek on the Channel toward the spillway. A boat with three men in it pulled up about 20 yards away and raised a hoop net. They completely ignored me. The net had about 40 to 50 white perch and bream in it. They poured these game fish into the boat and as they left one of the men was putting the game fish in a burlap bag.

Also, last year during the summer, I don't remember the date, I was fishing on Little D'Arbonne near Reddins Camp. A boat with two men in it pulled up within 15 yards of where I was sitting. They raised a hoop net and emptied 30 to 40 large white perch and bream into the boat. They then went on up the channel and raised another hoop net. I couldn't see what they caught in that one.

Since I have fished both with a net and with a pole and have spent so much time on the lake, I know what is going on. Excessive netting and the inability of game wardens to enforce laws regulating it has depleted the white perch and bream population to the point it is almost impossible to catch a mess by pole fishing.

When I was fishing hoop nets I caught game fish regularly but I put them back because I had rather catch them on a pole. I know from experience that most people who fish hoop nets don't put them back.

2/5/94  
Kinnith Johnston

*Mr E Smith*

A  
Mrvin E. Smith  
Rt. 1 Box 178  
Bernice, La. 71222

318-368-2114

I am 74 years old and have been in this area all my life. My ancestors were here before me. I have fished the area where D'Arbonne Lake is all my life for sports fish.

Up until a couple of years ago, I was always able to catch all the sports fish I wanted from the lake. I have noted a decided increase in nets in the lake over the last 2 years.

That rate has accelerated over the last year since netting has been stopped in Lake Claiborne and mercury has been discovered in fish from the river.

In the main channel where I fish, it is lined with hoop nets. Also, the small "Texas Style" nets are in the flats and sloughs where I fish.

Last fall while fishing on the channel near Rattle Snake Bend, I saw a boat with two men in it running hoop nets. I watched them pour game fish, mostly white perch into the boat and move on to the next net. I saw them do this on 2 to 3 nets before they moved out of sight. Each net had from 6 to 15 white perch by my estimation.

I have seen similar occurrences many times over the last several years.

Over the last 2 years I have been unable to catch any white perch in the places where I have caught them for years. Those holes are full of hoop nets. I know the hoop nets are catching the game fish.

The area from Rattle Snake Bend up to Edmonds Creed is dead to crapple fishing. Hoop nets and lack of enforcement are the reason.

*Mrvin E Smith*

2-5-1994

Ralph H. Bernard  
Rt. 1 Box 172K  
Bernice, La. 71222

318-368-8808

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Lake Commission that the D'Arbonne State Park area is practically a commercial fishing area in-lieu-of a recreational fishing area.

Additionally, giant(ancient) turtles are being unnecessarily caught on old trot lines that are left unattended.

Often, crappie are caught and kept by hoop-net fisherman. And you can hear nets being raised at night and during early foggy mornings.

Wire nets are placed on or near known bluegill beds and after two days one can't catch a mess of fish.

In August 1993 I found a bream bed near the mouth of Edmond Creek and was fishing it. When I left I noted a man and boy in a boat who had been hanging around the area drop a net into the bream bed. It was one of those small rigid nets known as a "Texas Style" or "Fiddler Net."

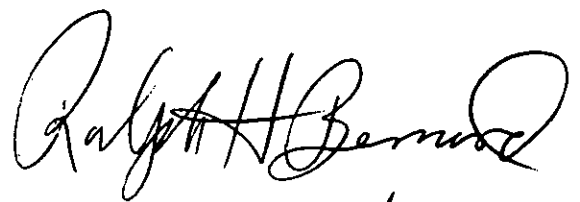
A day or two later I observed the two men empty what I estimate to have been 100 bream into the boat. I observed them in the area on several other occasions but did not see them actually empty their net. Within 3 days the bream were gone.

During crappie runs or spawns, the hoop nets are placed end to end or so thick that pole-fishing is impractical.

I know the above is true because I fish almost daily and used to catch alot of fish. My catch started to decline in 1992 and terrible in 1993.

Also, net fisherman watch me catch crappie and blue-gill and after I leave they plant their nets. I find the nets the next day and conversely I notice the decline in available fish.

I recommend disallowing the use of all nets and regular trotline staging. This will return Lake D'Arbonne to a recreational lake and provide use to the park patrons.

  
02-05-94

Mr. James D. McGee  
Rt. 1, Box 172-P-14  
Bernice, LA 71222

Phone: 318-368-9396

Within the last year, 1993, I have on approximately four occasions observed a neighbor, who fishes about 5 hoop nets in Little D'Arbonne channel between the State Park and Redden's camp, bring to his house one to three five gallon buckets containing game fish; crappie and yellow bass. I reported this violation through Operation Game Thief. To my knowledge he has not been apprehended.

In the area I normally fish for crappie in the Little D'Arbonne channel, I know it is laced with hoop nets. I know this because I see the lines some of them are tied off with and I see others as they are being run.

Over the last 10 years I have observed the nets in this area increase year by year. At the same time I have observed the crappie fishing decline until now I can hardly ever catch a decent mess of fish.

*James D. McGee*  
*2-1-94*

Mr. James W. Tolbert  
Rt. 4, Box 47 D  
Farmerville, LA 71241

Phone: 318-368-9684

I have lived on Lake D'Arbonne 12 years. My wife and I fish for crappie and she fishes for bream. I also fish for bass. We do most of our fishing below and above Rattle Snake Bend.

Until recently we have been able to catch all the fish we needed by sports fishing methods. Recently we have noticed a great increase in the number of hoop nets in the channel from Cypress Island boat road on up past Rattle Snake Bend. We know this because we see them raised and we frequently hook them while crappie fishing. Lately we have seen increased activity in this area at night.

While I cannot prove any connection between the great increase in netting in the lake and the decline in catchable sport fish, I suspect there is a connection. I do know that in the area I fish there are so many hoop nets they practically line the channel.

*James W. Tolbert*  
*Feb- 7, 1994*



Toni E. Smith  
Rt. 1 Box 172K-1  
Bernice, La. 71222

318-368-7842

I am 51 years old and have lived in this area off and on all my life. I have fished mostly from Rattle Snake Bend to Edmonds Creek for sports fish all my life.

Until the last 2 or 3 years, I could catch all the fish I wanted by sports fishing methods. It has now gotten where I can't catch any game fish at all.

I have also seen the number of hoop nets increase to where they practically line the channel. I believe the hoop nets are responsible for this decline.

*Toni E. Smith*  
*2.5.94*

"EXHIBIT D"

PHOTOS OF "TEXAS STYLE" OR "FIDDLER NETS" NOW USED THROUGHOUT  
THE LAKE.

PAGE 1 PHOTOS OF NETS RAISED FROM THE LAKE

PAGE 2 PHOTOS OF NETS OFFERED FOR SALE AT A BUSINESS IN  
FARMERVILLE

PHOTOS OF NETS RAISED FROM THE LAKE

PAGE 3 PHOTOS SHOWING THE SIMILARITY OF THESE NETS TO  
FISH TRAPS

"EXHIBIT E"

A RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION FOR THE LAKE COMMISSION TO ADOPT.

EXHIBIT E  
RESOLUTION

At the regular meeting of the Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission at its domicile in Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana, on \_\_\_\_\_, with a quorum of members in attendance, the following resolution was passed.

WHEREAS, Controversy over netting and its effect on sport fish population has continued between sport fishermen and net fishermen on Bayou D'Arbonne Lake and,

WHEREAS, this Commission recognizes this to be a real problem and has accepted written comments from interested parties and also held a public hearing on February 15, 1994, to hear all sides of the issue and,

WHEREAS, evidence has been presented by regular users of the lake that the proliferation of hoop nets in the channels of Little D'Arbonne, Corney and Big D'Arbonne in the lake has occurred to the point where it is, from a practical stand point, excessive and,

WHEREAS, the use of the smaller rigid type hoop nets, commonly called "Fiddler Nets" or "Texas Style " nets, are being widely used on spawning beds and in game fish holding areas in the sloughs and on the flats throughout the lake and,

WHEREAS, evidence has been submitted indicating game fish are caught regularly in all type hoop nets and that many net fishermen are not returning their catch of game fish to the lake and,

WHEREAS, evidence has been submitted indicating enforcement of the law against keeping game fish caught in hoop nets is not, and perhaps cannot, be carried out and,

WHEREAS, evidence has been submitted that whole areas of the lake such as Little D'Arbonne Channel that formerly were productive sportfishing areas now have extremely heavy concentrations of hoop nets and have become almost dead water as far as sport fishing, especially for crappie and bream, is concerned.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the commissioners of the Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission hereby request that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission take necessary action to allow commercial fin fish to be

taken in D'Arbonne Lake with slat traps, any pole, line, the device known as yo-yo, the device known as trigger device, hand line, with any trotline wherein hooks are not less than twenty-four inches apart, with bows and arrows, or by any skindiver when submerged in the water and using standard spearing equipment and by no other means.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the effective date be at the earliest practical time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries be asked to strictly enforce these and all other laws and regulations governing fishing, hunting and boating on D'Arbonne Lake.

March 25, 1994

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Richard Lindsey. I have been contracted by Crappiethon USA to hold a sixty day crappie tournament on Lake D'Arbonne. This statement should in no way be mistaken as an opinion of Crappiethon USA.

I am an avid crappie fisherman. I fish crappie tournaments, not only in Louisiana, but surrounding states as well. I am also a professional crappie guide on my home lake, Lake Bistineau. I belong to a 140 member crappie club on Bistineau.

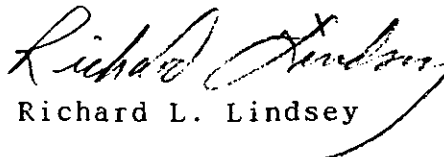
I started fishing D'Arbonne about one month before the tournament began. It took a lot of scouting the lake before I was able to locate fish. With the help of nine other accomplished anglers, I was able to catch, tag, and release some 500 crappie for the sixty day event. Broken down, there were approximately 400 man hours spent during 3 1/2 weeks of fishing. The fish that were caught ranged from less than 1/2 lb. to 2 lbs. There were noticeably more small fish than larger ones.

The fish that were caught were found in 17 to 19 feet of water. Up Corney Creek, also, there were an excessive amount of current, which enabled us to find stacked up fish. Without the current, it would have been even more difficult to locate enough fish to tag.

We also held a one day tagging tournament on March 12, 1994. We had eleven teams that produced less than 80 fish to be tagged.

Make no mistake, I certainly enjoyed the challenge of fishing D'Arbonne, but it is my opinion that with the removal of nets, Lake D'Arbonne would easily produce a more stable population of larger crappie and regain popularity with crappie anglers from all over Northeast Louisiana.

Sincerely,

  
Richard L. Lindsey

And Richard Lindsay of Minden, who helped put together a recent Crappiethon at the lake, said he knows firsthand that the fish population is down. His group had to put in more than 600 to 700 man-hours to catch 500 fish, he said. "Lake D'Arbonne could be a much better lake without the nets," said Lindsay, who has been a professional fishing guide for seven years.

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedures Act and R.S. 56:6(25)a and Act 285 of the 1993 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule:

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby prohibit the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the State waters of Sabine Lake for a period of fourteen days beginning at sunset on the day prior to opening day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season. All crab traps must be removed from the waters of Sabine Lake by sunset of the day prior to the opening of the season and may not be returned to those same waters until 6 am of the fifteenth day of the 1994 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that due to the fact that crabbing with crab traps is regulated within the Texas portion of the waters of Sabine Lake, the crab traps within the Lake are concentrated within Louisiana's portion of the Lake and place an undue hardship on the shrimpers of that area.

John F. Schneider, Chairman  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Dept. of Wildlife and  
Fisheries

RESOLUTION

Special Rule for the taking of Crabs on Sabine Lake  
adopted by the  
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission  
April 7, 1994

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedures Act allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to adopt emergency rules, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:6(25)a allows the Commission to promulgate rules and regulations, and

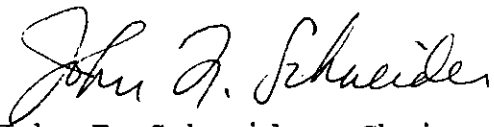
WHEREAS, Act 285 of the 1993 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature directs the Commission to establish rules relative to the taking of crabs by the use of crab traps within the waters of Sabine Lake, and

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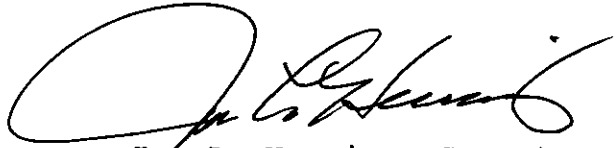
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby establish the following emergency rule:  
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency establishing  
this rule is attached to and made a part of this  
resolution.



John F. Schneider, Chairman  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission



Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Dept. of Wildlife and  
Fisheries

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

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Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Dept. of Wildlife and  
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John F. Schneider, Chairman  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
La. Dept. of Wildlife and  
Fisheries



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RANDY ROACH  
DISTRICT 36

P.O. BOX 4963  
LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA 70608  
1-800-259-4443  
LINC 475-8092  
LAKE CHARLES OFFICE (318) 478-8551  
CAMERON OFFICE (318) 542-4443  
FAX L.C. OFFICE (318) 478-5250  
FAX CAMERON OFFICE (318) 542-4696

NATURAL RESOURCES  
WAYS & MEANS

March 30, 1994

VIA Facsimile

Perry Gisclair  
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission  
P.O. Box 338  
Golden Meadow, LA 70357

RE: Adjustments in the Crabbing Season for Sabine Lake

Dear Mr. Gisclair:

Last year, the legislature passes Act 285 of 1993. This Act specifically gives the Wildlife & Fisheries Commission the authority to set specific restrictions on crabbing in Sabine Lake.

We have a serious problem with the large number of crab traps in Sabine Lake. By local ordinance, the City of Port Arthur has restricted crabbing on the Texas side of Sabine Lake. As a result, the Texas crabbers are using the Louisiana portion of the Lake. The pressure from Texas crabbers has become so significant that even Louisiana crabbers cannot use the Lake.

The large number of crab traps in Sabine Lake makes it difficult for Louisiana shrimpers to use the Lake. After several meetings and a lot of discussion between local shrimpers and crabbers, it was agreed that we would ask the commission to restrict crabbing in Sabine Lake at the beginning of the regular brown and white shrimp seasons.

All agree that if we were dealing with a "user conflict" between Louisiana shrimpers and Louisiana crabbers, this probably would not be necessary. Generally, most crabbers will move their crab traps at the beginning of the season as a courtesy to the local shrimpers.

The proposed regulation will simply enforce this custom as a matter of law. We hope that it will bring some balance to the use of the Lake and will help law enforcement to restore some reasonable control to the location and use of crab traps in the area.

These recommendations have been developed through a series of meetings held in Cameron Parish. The Department has worked with us in developing a proposed solution. We would appreciate your favorable consideration of this matter at your April meeting.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Randall E. Roach

RER/lmd

cc: File

#11

## MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT 1992-93

PERIOD	NO. CASES ASSESSED	AMOUNT ASSESSED	CREDIT FOR NO. SALE GOODS	CASES PAID	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNTS TAKEN
July, 1992	105	26,553	(10,515)	103	5,578	
Aug, 1992	137	26,153	(3,241)	95	5,292	
Sept, 1992	214	34,341	(3,245)	82	6,186	
Oct, 1992	346	238,388	(19,670)	119	8,310	292
Nov, 1992	34	17,264		220	11,744	4,651
Dec, 1992	122	76,371	(7,012)	97	5,042	1,275
Jan, 1993	77	35,470	(979)	75	7,389	3,799
Feb, 1993	40	10,787		81	13,141	6,941
March, 1993	37	15,552	(1,876)	60	13,479	5,848
April, 1993	24	8,418	(10,809)	31	5,000	2,379
May, 1993	21	16,063	(1,599)	39	5,704	2,381
June, 1993	40	23,637	(7,454)	27	8,356	4,077
Total FY 93	1,197	528,997	(66,400)	1,029	95,221	31,643
July, 1993	25	21,039	(9,778)	29	4,855	2,545
August, 1993	53	44,922	(1,137)	41	7,950	3,603
Sept., 1993	42	137,635	(17,938)	35	6,783	3,048
October, 1993	49	21,471	(11,282)	40	3,285	1,519
Nov., 1993	57	31,207	(13,260)	32	3,053	2,845
Dec., 1993	53	13,777	0	27	6,507	6,713
Jan., 1994	38	18,918	0	32	4,423	2,831
Feb., 1994	68	38,131	(8,238)	46	9,124	5,993
March, 1994	38	22,739	(2,482)	51	10,854	6,796
Total FY 94	423	349,839	(64,115)	333	56,834	35,893

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT

DATE: 5-APR-1994

CURRENT MONTH 03/01/1994 TO 03/31/1994 FISCAL YEAR TO DATE 07/01/1993 TO 03/31/1994 INCEPTION TO DATE 03/31/1994

ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED  
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS  
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION

RESTITUTION ASSESSED

PAYMENTS  
OVERPAYMENTS  
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS  
REFUNDS  
REMUNERATION REFUNDS  
RETURNED CHECKS  
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS  
DEBITS  
CREDITS  
REASSESSMENTS  
DEBITS  
CREDITS  
ADJUST VIOLATION  
DEBITS  
CREDITS  
WRITE-OFFS  
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN  
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT

\*\* TOTAL OUTSTANDING

FOOTNOTE:

PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT  
AMOUNT PAID TO COLLECTOR

# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT	# CASES	AMOUNT
38	\$22,738.52	431	\$484,883.94	1,964	\$1,206,128.83
6	\$2,482.00-	64	\$64,022.45-	282	\$222,273.83-
0	\$0.00	25	\$19,993.09	125	\$54,689.55
38	\$20,256.52	431	\$440,854.58	1,964	\$1,038,544.55
51	\$10,854.28-	306	\$57,735.63-	1,245	\$160,614.54-
7	\$35.43	15	\$43.84	29	\$200.85
46	\$6,795.90-	279	\$36,516.04-	629	\$69,939.77-
3	\$35.11	7	\$3,389.89	9	\$3,782.69
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$7,038.85
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$0.80
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$15.00
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
0	\$0.00	3	\$214.75	12	\$3,001.34
0	\$0.00	4	\$1,339.25-	33	\$9,228.05-
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
1	\$0.34-	145	\$263,812.72-	177	\$267,898.63-
0	\$0.00	2	\$466.42-	4	\$586.70-
0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$97.80-
494		494			\$544,218.59
0	\$0.00	5	\$1,100.00	31	\$10,262.59
	\$0.00		\$275.00		\$2,565.64
AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES					
CAN NOT BE INVOICED					
1 - 30 DAYS		6	\$1,399.84		
31 - 60 DAYS		22	\$15,316.02		
61 - 90 DAYS		20	\$14,038.91		
91 - 120 DAYS		12	\$6,783.58		
121 - 150 DAYS		39	\$8,589.44		
151 - 180 DAYS		19	\$6,704.69		
181 - 365 DAYS		59	\$20,936.21		
CASES SENT FOR COLLECTION		264	\$400,050.24		
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING		16	\$45,193.41		
OVER 1 YEAR (OTHER)		0	\$0.00		
		37	\$25,206.25		
494					\$544,218.59

\*\* TOTAL AGING

494

\$544,218.59



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT

DATE: 5-APR-1994

	CURRENT MONTH 03/01/1994 TO 03/31/1994	FISCAL YEAR TO DATE 07/01/1993 TO 03/31/1994	INCEPTION TO DATE 03/31/1994
FINES			
HEARING COSTS			
DEBITS	893	5,083	30,568
CREDITS	122	1,531	7,121
	\$46,625.00	\$261,120.00	\$1,545,942.07
	\$3,050.00	\$38,275.00	\$178,030.00
	\$100.00-	\$350.00-	\$625.00-
TOTAL DUE	\$49,575.00	\$299,045.00	\$1,723,347.07

PAID IN FULL	449	2,976	15,663	\$800,421.90-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	15	117	377	\$16,171.51-
OVERPAYMENTS	4	45	199	\$11,749.08
REFUNDS	2	21	36	\$2,227.50
RETURNED CHECKS	1	6	18	\$900.00
MISC CHANGES				
DEBITS	1	6	18	\$270.00
CREDITS	4	18	76	\$83.15-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION				
DEBITS	2	20	41	\$2,250.00
CREDITS	2	2	5	\$250.00-
VOIDS	35	224	1,280	\$48,636.63-
NOT GUILTY	10	114	259	\$12,875.00-
TOTAL OUTSTANDING				\$862,305.46

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES  
FROM CITATION DATE

0 - 30 DAYS	518	\$27,315.00
31 - 60 DAYS	348	\$18,380.00
61 - 90 DAYS	130	\$7,275.00
91 - 120 DAYS	0	\$0.00
121 - 150 DAYS	0	\$0.00
151 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	2,510	\$166,317.50
OVER 1 YEAR UNCOLLECTABLE	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR (OTHER)	10,052	\$643,117.96

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES  
FROM HEARING DATE

PRE HEARING	785	\$41,070.00
0 - 90 DAYS	2,348	\$121,525.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 270 DAYS	0	\$0.00
271 - 365 DAYS	2,264	\$154,949.00
OVER 1 YEAR UNCOLLECTABLE	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR PENDING	0	\$0.00
OVER 1 YEAR (OTHER)	8,161	\$544,861.46

**ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT**

**MARCH 1994**

**ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT-MARCH 1994**

**REGION I**

**TOTAL CASES-73**

**ENFORCEMENT-72**

**OTHER - 1**

20-Boating

22-Angling W/O A License

21-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

2-Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegally

1-Take Illegal Size Black Bass

1-Transport W/O Required License

2-Caddo Lake (Yo-Yo-Regulations Violation)

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

1-Littering

1-Violate Commission Regulations For Commercial Fish

**CONFISCATIONS:**

12 bream, 2 bass, 2 hoop nets, 1-25 h.p. Johnson motor, 900 feet of 4 inch webbing, 328 lbs. of commercial fish sold for \$83.50, 200 lbs. of carp donated.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION I:**

20-Boating

51-Fishing

1-MGB

1-Misc.

Page (2)

**REGION 2**

**TOTAL CASES-81**

**ENFORCEMENT-77**

**OTHER - 4**

29-Boating

26-Angling W/O A License

4-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

13-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

2-Use Gear W/o Recreational Gear License

2-Possession Of Illegally Taken Deer

1-Wanton Waste Of MGB

**CONFISCATIONS:**

1-14 Foot aluminum boat, 1 boat trailer, 1-40 h.p. Mercury Motor, 2 doe.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2:**

29-Boating

45-Fishing

2-Hunting

1-Federal

4-Other

Page (3)

**REGION 3**

**TOTAL CASES-136**

**ENFORCEMENT-132**

**OTHER - 4**

34-Boating

70-Angling W/O A License

12-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

1-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

5-Take Illegal Size Black Bass

2-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Freshwater Gamefish

1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

1-Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer

2-Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area

1-Taking Robins-No Season

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA

1-DWI

2-Littering

2-Criminal Trespass On Crawfish Ponds

4-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

**CONFISCATIONS:**

1 Ford Pickup, 3 resident fishing licenses, 1 robin, 22 black bass.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3:**

34-Boating

91-Fishing

5-Hunting

7-Other

Page (4)

**REGION 4**

**TOTAL CASES-87**

**ENFORCEMENT-85**

**OTHER - 2**

20-Boating

20-Angling W/O A License

13-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

19-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

3-Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegally

2-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

2-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Use Lead Nets In Other Than Overflow Regions

1-Hunting W/O Resident License

1-Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer

2-Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA

**CONFISCATIONS:**

200 yards of 2 inch gill net, 17 hoop nets with leads, 139 crappie.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4:**

20-Boating

62-Fishing

4-Hunting

1-WMA

Page (5)

**REGION 5**

**TOTAL CASES-163**

**ENFORCEMENT-149**

**OTHER DIV. - 14**

52-Boating

59-Angling W/O A License

17-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License Non-Resident

2-Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegally

4-Fail To Have Saltwater Fish Intact

9-Not Abiding By Commission Rules

2-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

1-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License

1-Transport W/O Required License

1-Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer

2-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations

2-Take Alligators W/O License

2-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA

6-Littering

**CONFISCATIONS:**

122 red snapper, 20 crappie, 1 alligator, 1 red drum.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5:**

52-Boating

7-Other

103-Fishing

1-Hunting

**REGION 6**

**TOTAL CASES-212**

**ENFORCEMENT-211**

**OTHER - 1**

55-Boating

64-Angling W/O A License

15-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

45-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

1-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Freshwater Gamefish

6-Take Illegal Size Black Bass

1-Not Abiding By Commission Rules

1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

3-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

2-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License

2-Illegal Shipping Of Commercial Fish Shipping Regs., Tags & Identification

1-Fail To Have Commercial Fish Intact

1-Fail To Mark Softshell Crab Container Or Improper Molting Stage

2-Possess Or Sell Undersized Crabs

1-Hunting W/O Resident License

1-Hunting From Moving Vehicle And/Or Aircraft

1-Hunt Wild Quadrupeds And/Or Wild Birds Illegal Hours

1-Hunt From Public Road Right-Of-Way

1-Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area

2-Possession Of Live Alligators W/O Permit

1-Taking Or Possession Of Non-Game Birds-No Season

3-Littering

1-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries



Page (7)

**REGION 6 CONT'D.**

1-Possess/Take Over Limit Federal Controlled Fish

1-Refuse/Misrepresent Booking Info.

**CONFISCATIONS:**

61 lbs. red snapper, 3-1/2 crates of crabs, 1-2.4 foot alligator, 30 black bass, 2 alligators, 40 busters (crabs).

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6:**

55-Boating

8-Hunting

145-Fishing

5-Misc.

**REGION 7**

**TOTAL CASES-171**

**ENFORCEMENT-171**

**OTHER - 0**

27- Boating

68-Angling W/O A License

11-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

4-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License

8-Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegally

3-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

3-Transport W/O Required License

1-Illegal Shipping Of Commercial Fish Shipping Regs. Tags & Identification

1-Possess Crabs In Berry Stage

8-Sell Undersize Crabs

3-Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef

2-Failure To Fill Out Oyster Tags Correctly

1-Failure To Tag Sacked Or Containerized Oysters

1-Buying Or Selling For Resale Untagged Oysters

2-Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location

2-Hunting W/O Resident License

1-Possess Of Buckshot During Closed Deer Season

1-Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License

12-Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area

1-Hunt Raccoons Or Opossums Illegally

2-Possession Of Live Alligators W/O Permit

2-Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA

Page (9)

**REGION 7 CONT'D.**

1-Littering

1-Violation Of Sanitary Code-Chapter 9

2-Possess Red Drum Illegally

**CONFISCATIONS:**

6 shotguns, 1 boat and motor, 7 gill nets, 500 sacks of oysters, 1100 pounds of crawfish tails.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7:**

27-Boating

117-Fishing

25-Hunting

**REGION 8**

**TOTAL CASES-244**

**ENFORCEMENT-236**

**OTHER - 8**

50-Boating

30-Angling W/O A License

5-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

3-Angling W/O Saltwater License

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License Non-Resident

2-Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegal Means

2-Possess Overlimit Of Red Drum

6-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

11-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum

2-Possess O/L Spotted Sea Trout

5-Take Or Possess O/L Black Drum

1-Obtain License Or Engage In Activity During Revocation Period

2-Not Abiding By Commission Rules And Regulations Comm. Finfish

11-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

5-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

10-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License

3-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

1-Fail To Maintain Records

3-Transport W/O Required License

1-Poss. Of Red Drum & Spotted Sea Trout Illegally

16-Leave Nets Unattended

2-Use Crab Traps W/O Required Markings

1-Destroy Legal Crab Traps Or Removing Contents

**REGION 8 CONT'D.**

**2-Fail To Mark Softshell Crab Container Or Improper Molting Stage**

**1-Fail To Comply With Quota Closure Spotted Sea Trout**

**1-Permit Unlicensed Person To Use Commercial Gear**

**2-Use Illegal Length Gill Nets-Saltwater**

**10-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets**

**1-Take/Possess Undersized Black Drum**

**10-Possess Or Sell Undersized Crabs**

**3-Violate Commercial Regulations For Commercial Fish;(overlimit of red snapper-54 over, 8 amberjack  
undersize, red snapper undersize)**

**2-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms**

**2-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area**

**2-Take Oysters Illegal Hours**

**5-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel**

**5-Possession Of Untagged Oysters**

**2-Harvest Oysters W/O Oyster Harvester License**

**1-Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer**

**1-Hunting Snipe Closed Season**

**2-Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA**

**3-Resisting An Officer**

**3-Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana**

**2-Theft Of State Property**

**1-Littering**

**3-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries**

**REGION 8 CONT'D.**

1-Possess/Take Undersized Federal Controlled Fish

3-Fail To Keep Federally Controlled Fish Intact

2-Take Federal Controlled Fish In Closed Season

1-Refuse/Misrepresent Booking Info.

1-Violation Of Sanitary Code-Chapter 9

**CONFISCATIONS:**

170 speckled trout, 26 red drum, 316 black drum, 10 white trout, 3 sheephead, 6 cobia, 8 amberjack, 40 bags of filets, 24 gallons of oysters, and 10 sacks of oysters, 4 lbs. of crawfish tails, 2 gray ducks, 1 rabbit, 54 whole snapper sold for \$273.00.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8:**

50-Boating

67-Sport Fishing

85-Commercial Fishing

18-Oyster

1-General Hunting

1-MGB

2-WMA

20-Misc.

**REGION 9**

**TOTAL CASES-281**

**ENFORCEMENT-275**

**OTHER - 6**

73-Boating

50-Angling W/O A License

2-Angling W/O Saltwater License Non-Resident

7-Fish W/O Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

4-Angling W/O Saltwater License

1-Taking/Possession Over Limit Or Freshwater Gamefish

3-Take Illegal Size Black Bass

3-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

1-Take Or Possess Undersized Spotted Sea Trout

2-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum

8-Angling W/O A License Non-Resident

2-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

3-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

4-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

6-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License

1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

2-Fail To Maintain Records

1-Transport W/O Required License

8-Fail To Mark Crab Containers

1-Use Illegal Mesh Nets

4-Leave Nets Unattended

1-Buy Commercial Fish From Un-Lic. Fisherman

**REGION 9 CONT'D.**

- 2-Possess Crabs In Berry Stage
- 5-Use Crab Traps W/O Required Markings
- 63-Possess Or Sell Undersized Crabs
- 3-Theft Of Crab Trap
- 4-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets
- 1-Trawling In Closed Season
- 1-Failure To Tag Sacked Or Containerized Oysters
- 1-Possession Of Untagged Oysters
- 2-Littering
- 1-Possess/Take Federal Controlled Fish-Bluefin Tuna
- 2-Driving W/O License
- 1-Flight From An Officer
- 2-Reckless Operation Motor Vehicle
- 2-Aggravated Assault
- 1-Contributing To Delinquency Of A Minor

**CONFISCATIONS:**

15,774 lbs. of crabs, 5 red drum, 2 spotted sea trout, 3 bass, 4 ibis, 3 sacks of oysters, 6 drum, 1 trawl net,  
1 boat and motor, 1 weapon, 13 crab traps, 450 feet of gill net.

**GRAND TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9:**

192-Fishing	11-Misc.
1-Trawling	
2-Oysters	
73-Boating	
2-MGB	



**OYSTER STRIKE FORCE**

**TOTAL CASES-85**

**24-Possession Of Undersize Crabs**

**8-Take Federal Controlled Fish In Closed Season (Red Drum)**

**4-Possess/Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish (Red Snapper)**

**4-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum**

**4-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum**

**4-Transport W/O Required License**

**4-Possess Crabs In Berry Stage**

**3-Fail To Have Saltwater Fish Intact (Black Drum)**

**3-Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef**

**3-Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location**

**2-Fail To Comply With P.F.D.**

**2-Fail To Mark Crab Containers**

**2-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License**

**2-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License**

**1-Failure To Fill Out Oyster Tags Correctly**

**1-Possession Of Untagged Oysters**

**1-Buying Or Selling For Resale Untagged Oysters**

**1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License**

**1-Expired Boat Registration**

**1-Unregistered Boat**

**1-Use Crab Traps W/O Required Markings**

**1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License**

Page (16)

**OYSTER STRIKE FORCE CONT'D.**

1-Trawling In Closed Season

1-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

1-Theft Of Crab Trap

4-Other

**CONFISCATIONS:**

257 sacks of oysters, 32 boxes crabs, 25 black drum, 13 red drum, 23 red snapper.

**SPECIAL STRIKE FORCE**

**TOTAL CASES-135**

**2-Boating**

**21-Angling W/O A License**

**1-Fish W/O Resident Pole License**

**1-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum**

**1-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum**

**4-Not Abiding By Commission Rules & Regulations Commercial Finfish**

**1-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession**

**1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License**

**1-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License**

**11-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License**

**2-Fail To Maintain Records**

**4-Transport W/O Required License**

**1-Illegal Shipping Of Commercial Fish Shipping Regs. Tags & Identification**

**1-Take/Poss. Undersize Cml. Finfish**

**3-Possess Crabs In Berry Stage**

**1-Use Crab Traps W/O Required Markings**

**1-Set Crab Traps In Nav. Channels**

**1-Fail To Comply With Quota Closure Spotted Sea Trout**

**1-Take/Possess Undersized Black Drum**

**11-Possess Or Sell Undersized Crabs**

**2-Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef**

**1-Failure To Fill Out Oyster Tags Correctly**

**SPECIAL STRIKE FORCE CONT'D.**

- 2-Failure To Tag Sacked Or Containerized Oysters
- 4-Buying Or Selling For Resale Untagged Oysters
- 2-Possession Of Untagged Oysters
- 2-Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location
- 1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations
- 1-Take Alligators W/O License
- 1-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season
- 1-Dealing In Alligator Parts W/O Proper Parts License
- 1-Resisting An Officer
- 1-Operating Vehicle While Intoxicated
- 2-Littering
- 10-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries
- 3-Possess/Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish
- 1-Possess/Take Over Limit Federal Controlled Fish
- 3-Take Federal Controlled Fish In Closed Season
- 2-Violation Of Sanitary Code-Chapter 9

**CONFISCATIONS:**

287 sacks of oysters, 31 gallons of oysters, 600 lbs. of crabs, 42 lbs. of cobia, 654 lbs. amberjack, 102 lbs. speckled trout, 542 lbs. black drum, 196 lbs. of swordfish, 70 lbs. redfish, 100 lbs. turtle, 80 lbs. red snapper sold for \$306.00, 1,836 lbs. crawfish meat, 4 outboard motors, 2 boats.

Page (19)

**S.W.E.P.**

**100 HOURS RUNNING TIME**

**106 BOATS CHECKED**

**TOTAL CASES-29**

7-Angling W/O A License

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License

3-Fail To Display Proper Numbers On Vessel

1-Operate Unregistered Boat

1-No Commercial Fishing License

1-No Oyster Harvester License

1-Trawling In Closed Season

1-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Possession Overlimit Of Red Snapper

7-Take Federal Controlled Fish Closed Season

5-Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish (Red Snapper)

**CONFISCATIONS:**

47 sacks of oysters, 3,600 feet of unattended gill net, 2-45 foot trawls, 342 lbs. of shrimp sold for \$684.00,

15 red fish.

Page (20)

**TOTAL CASES ENFORCEMENT** -1408

**TOTAL CASES OTHER DIV.** -40

**TOTAL CASES OYSTER STRIKE FORCE** -85

**TOTAL CASES SPECIAL STRIKE FORCE** -135

**TOTAL CASE S.W.E.P.** -29

**GRAND TOTAL** -1257

Photo by Nancy Webb  
Habitat: Bayou  
Sabine National Wildlife Refuge  
Cameron Parish

# August 1994

SUN MON TUES WED THURS FRI SAT

	Hunting season is near. check equipment and exercise to get into shape.	Continue fall wildlife planning work.			Rare insect-eating spoon-tailed surinam, Drosophila intermedia, in flower in swamps and bogs.																																																																																												
New moon	Large numbers of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds pass through Louisiana to Central America.	Bluegill begin to school again.		Get lanterns and gigs ready for flounders on mud flats and in shallows.	Begin checking paw-paw thickets for fallen, ripe fruit.	First Blue-winged Teal and Pintail begin appearing in coastal areas.																																																																																											
7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																											
First quarter moon Scout hunting areas and check mast-producing trees.	Appearance of pink and orange fruits of strawberry bush. (known as "deer ice-cream")	Work retrievers to get in shape for dove season.	Blue Wing Teal begin congregating on Calhoule Lake.	Create rabbit bedding and cover for other wildlife by piling together tree limbs.	Bull redfish begin congregating near tidal passes.																																																																																												
14	15	16	17	18	19	20																																																																																											
Full moon Best largemouth bass fishing at night at Toledo Bend.	Family groups of Sooty-tailed Kites can be observed soaring over Pearl and Atchafalaya river basins.	Pygmy rattlesnakes give birth this month.	Begin preparation for alligator season.	Delicious muscadine grapes ripen in forests throughout the state.																																																																																													
21	22	23	24	25	26	27																																																																																											
Prepare to take fall pictures. Use ISO 25 film and a polarized filter.	Last quarter moon	Endangered manatee wanders into Louisiana waters during late summer.	Keep all guns and ammunition stored out of children's reach.		<p>JULY 1994</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<p>SEPTEMBER 1994</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

April 1, 1994

TO: Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission  
FROM: John Roussel, Marine Fisheries Division  
SUBJECT: Update on Activities of the Shrimp Task Force

Per your request at the October 1993 Commission meeting, attached, please find a report on the above named subject.

JR:lr

Attachment

cc: Joe Herring  
Corky Perret



# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 29, 1994

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: John E. Roussel, Acting Administrator, Marine Fisheries  
FROM: L. Brandt Savoie, Programs Manager, Marine Fisheries  
SUBJ: Shrimp Task Force

The Governor's Task Force on Shrimp Management did not meet during the month of March, 1994. The last of the scoping meetings on shrimp sanctuaries were held through the middle of the month and the results were not available for discussion before the end of the month. All the data from the questionnaires has been entered into the computer and will soon be available for the Task Force's use. We are currently planning to have a meeting some time in April to begin formulating recommendations on shrimp sanctuaries.

As soon as the data base has been verified and corrected it will be made available to the Task Force and the Commission.

LBS:bs

# Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

## NEWS RELEASE

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary



CONTACT  
(504) 765-2923

94-69

3/31/94

### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION TO MEET IN RUSTON

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will conduct its next regular meeting on **Thursday, April 7, 1994**, at 10:00 a.m. at the **Ruston Civic Center**, 401 N. Trenton St., in Ruston, La.

The meeting is open to the public. The agenda follows.

1. Roll call.
2. Approval of March 3 minutes.
3. Shell dredging lease bid package, central coast.
4. Aircraft report.
5. Public comments on proposed 1994-95 Resident Hunting Seasons.
6. Turkey hunting season update.
7. Resolution: National Fishing Week
8. Consideration of Lake D'Arbonne resolution.
9. Report on Caney Lake.
10. Declaration of Emergency: rules for taking crabs in Sabine Lake.
11. Civil restitution and class 1 update.
12. Monthly law enforcement report/March.
13. Set August 1994 meeting.
14. Secretary's report to the Commission.
15. Public comments.

-30-

This public document was printed at a total cost of \$2.94. Three hundred copies of this document were printed in this first and only printing. This document was produced by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, La., 70808 to provide timely information about department programs for numerous interest groups and the general public. This document was printed in accordance with the printing standards for state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO: Judy Burt

FAX# \_\_\_\_\_

FROM Susan

RE: Commission Agenda



DATE: 4/4/94

TIME SENT \_\_\_\_\_

FOR INFORMATION CALL (504) 765- 2806

OUR FAX # (504) 765-2607

PAGES TO FOLLOW 1

March 28, 1994

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

On Wednesday, April 6, 1994 there will be a public hearing at 7:00 P.M. for discussing the 1994-95 Hunting Regulations. This meeting will be held at the Ruston Civic Center, 401 N. Trenton, Ruston, LA. Then, the regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be held on Thursday, April 7, 1994 at 10:00 A.M. also at the Ruston Civic Center. The agenda for Thursday's meeting is as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 1994
3. Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast
4. Aircraft Report
5. Public Comments on 1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game
6. Turkey Hunting Season Update
7. National Fishing Week Resolution
8. Consideration of Lake D'Arbonne Resolution
9. Report on Caney Lake
10. Declaration of Emergency - Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake
11. Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update
12. Monthly Law Enforcement Report/March
13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
14. Set August 1994 Meeting Date
15. Public Comments

**FAX TRANSMITTAL**

DATE: 3/30/94  
TO: Susan Hawkin  
FAX NUMBER: 761-2607

FROM: JOHN F. "JEFF" SCHNEIDER  
OUR PHONE: (504) 386-2694  
OUR FAX: (504) 386-2694

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1

MESSAGE:

Rep. Randy Roach has requested  
that we add adjustments to Crabbing season  
on Sabine Lake to

PLEASE CALL IF YOU RECEIVE THIS TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, OR IF  
YOU EXPERIENCE ANY TRANSMISSION PROBLEMS.

The agenda.  
Jeff

March 28, 1994

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 7, 1994 at the Ruston Civic Center, 401 N. Trenton, Ruston, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 1994
3. Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast
4. Aircraft Report
5. Public Comments on 1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game
6. Turkey Hunting Season Update
7. National Fishing Week Resolution
8. Declaration of Emergency - Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake
9. Report on Fisherman's Sales Card and Dealer Receipt Card, Information Only
10. Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update
11. Monthly Law Enforcement Report/March
12. Secretary's Report to the Commission
13. Set August 1994 Meeting Date
14. Public Comments

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 24, 1994

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission  
FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *[Signature]*  
SUBJECT: April Board Meeting Agenda

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 7, 1994, at the Ruston Civic Center, 401 N. Trenton, Ruston, LA.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 1994

## BERT JONES/MINERALS COMMITTEE

2. Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast

## LEE CAUBARREUX

3. Aircraft Report
4. Public Comments on 1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game
5. Turkey Hunting Season Update

## BOB DENNIE

6. National Fishing Week Resolution

## CORKY PERRET

7. Declaration of Emergency - Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake

Page 2  
Commission Meeting  
March 24, 1994

TEE JOHN MIALJEVICH

8. Report on Fisherman's Sales Card and Dealer Receipt Card,  
Information Only

FRED PREJEAN

9. Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update

WINTON VIDRINE

10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report/March

JOE L. HERRING

11. Secretary's Report to the Commission

12. Set August 1994 Meeting Date

PUBLIC COMMENTS

JLH:sch

C: Clyde Kimball  
Fred Prejean  
Lee Caubarreux  
Corky Perret  
Don Puckett  
John Medica  
Division Chiefs



---

# JOHN F. 'JEFF' SCHNEIDER

23473 HWY. 22 • PONCHATOULA • LA • USA • 70454



(504) 386-2694



(504) 386-8593

---

Date:

3/22/94

Total # of pages including cover sheet:

1

To:

Susan Hawkins

Reclpt Fax:

765-2607

Memo:

Agenda okay!

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**Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax•Fax**

## FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO: Jeff Schneider  
Chairman  
FAX#                       
FROM Susan Hawkins  
RE: Commission Agenda

Please review the attached agenda and let me know of changes and your approval. Thank you.

DATE: March 22, 1994  
TIME SENT                       
FOR INFORMATION CALL (504) 765- 2806  
OUR FAX # (504) 765-2607  
PAGES TO FOLLOW 2

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission  
FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary  
SUBJECT: April Board Meeting Agenda

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 7, 1994, at the Ruston Civic Center, 401 N. Trenton, Ruston, LA.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 1994

BERT JONES/MINERALS COMMITTEE

- . Shell Dredging Lease Bid Package, Central Coast

LEE CAUBARREAU

- . Aircraft Report
- . Public Comments on 1994-95 Hunting Seasons Resident Game
- . Turkey Hunting Season Update

BOB DENNIE

- . National Fishing Week Resolution

CORKY PERRET

- . Declaration of Emergency - Rules for the Taking of Crabs in Sabine Lake

Page 2  
Commission Meeting

TEE JOHN MIALJEVICH

- . Fisherman's Sales Card and Dealer Receipt Card,  
Information Only

FRED PREJEAN

- . Civil Restitution and Class 1 Update

WINTON VIDRINE

- . Monthly Law Enforcement Report/March

JOE L. HERRING

- . Secretary's Report to the Commission
- . Set August 1994 Meeting Date

PUBLIC COMMENTS

JLH:sch

C: Clyde Kimball  
Fred Prejean  
Lee Caubarreaux  
Corky Perret  
Don Puckett  
John Medica  
Division Chiefs

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 3, 1994

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, ✓ Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-  
Office of Wildlife, and Assistant Secretary-Office of  
Fisheries

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *JLH*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - April 7, 1994

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Hawkins by Wednesday, March 16, 1994 any agenda items your office may have for the Thursday, April 7th Commission Meeting to be held in Ruston, Louisiana at the Ruston Civic Center, 401 North Trenton. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on April 7th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

JLH/sch

cc: Commissioners  
Don Puckett  
Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine  
Hugh Bateman  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

RECEIVED

MAR 04 1994

OFFICE OF  
MANAGEMENT & FINANCE

*I do not have anything for the agenda.*  
*Fredrick Ryzon*

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 3, 1994

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-  
Office of Wildlife, and Assistant Secretary-Office of  
Fisheries

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *JLH*

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JLH/sch

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Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine  
Hugh Bateman ✓  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

1- Public HEARING - 1994-95 Hunting.  
SEASONS RESIDENT GAME - T. PRICKETT

2- Turkey Hunting Season Update - H.  
Bateman

# State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 3, 1994

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-  
Office of Wildlife, and Assistant Secretary-Office of  
Fisheries

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *JLH*

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Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

*SHELL DREP -  
G/N/G Lease Bid Package,  
Central Coast - Minerals  
Committee  
Same wording  
as the '91 Agenda  
— see me. *JLH**

*To: Karcow + Price Mors  
Agenda Items?*

# State of Louisiana



*OK*  
*3-7-94*

Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 3, 1994

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-  
Office of Wildlife, and Assistant Secretary-Office of  
Fisheries

FROM: Joe L. Herring, Secretary *JLH*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - April 7, 1994

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Hawkins by Wednesday, March 16, 1994 any agenda items your office may have for the Thursday, April 7th Commission Meeting to be held in Ruston, Louisiana at the Ruston Civic Center, 401 North Trenton. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on April 7th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

JLH/sch

cc: Commissioners  
Don Puckett  
Bob Dennie  
Winton Vidrine  
Hugh Bateman  
Johnnie Tarver  
Bennie Fontenot  
John Roussel ✓  
Wynnette Kees  
Karl Turner

1.) DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY - RULES FOR THE TAKING OF  
CRABS IN SABINE LAKE - BRANT SAVOIE



RECEIVED

MAR 07 94

INLAND FISHERIES  
DIVISION

State of Louisiana



Joe L. Herring  
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Post Office Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2800

Edwin W. Edwards  
Governor

March 3, 1994

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-  
Office of Wildlife, and Assistant Secretary-Office of  
Fisheries

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Karl Turner

Dear Susan:  
I have no agenda  
items) for the April 7<sup>th</sup>  
Commission meeting.  
Thank you  
Beannie

# State of Louisiana



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John Roussel  
Wynnette Kees ✓  
Karl Turner

*Civil Restitution  
Fred Pfeiffer  
3-11-94*

# State of Louisiana



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Karl Turner

*Case Report*  
*W. Vidrine*

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Karl Turner

*None - CWK*

# State of Louisiana



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Karl Turner

*nothing planned*  
*Johnnie Tarver*  
*3-7-94*